SECTION TWO

PRINCESS PRIME TIME MARTIN SCORSESE David Aaronovitch on the Talks about de Niro, making of Dianarama'

the Mob and movies

SIX PAGES OF GRADUATE

WIN A SKI HOLIDAY IN COLORADO

Plus K2 skis and snowboards to be won, see page 30



Queen's Speech is overshadowed by rise in unemployment and fall in retail sales

Economy blights Tory relaunch

DONALD MACINTYRE and PAUL WALLACE

Fresh signs of weakness in the economy yesterday blunted the impact of the Government's legislative programme announced in the Queen's Speech, and put even greater pressure on Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to use this month's budget as the launch pad for a Tory political recovery.

. The first rise in unemployment for three years and sharp falls in retail sales and in the value of the pound threatened to overshadow a Qucen's Speech containing contentious measures on asylum, crime, education and housing, and intended to spearhead the Conervatives "Autumn Offensive." Tony Blair and John Major

> Inside Julian Critchley

began to draw the hattle-lines

page 2 School opt-out hitch page 6 Fury in the Commons

page 7 Leading article page 20 Andrew Marr

for a prolonged general election campaign in pointed and hitter Commons exchanges over a 1995-6 programme containing 15 hills for what will be the last full session of Parliament before

said that the Speech was a without precipitating a run on vative values", Mr Blair used one of his most effective parliamentary performances as party leader to claim that the programme was not "to help the people of Britain but to play a game in the run-up to the

In the ficroest clashes of the day, both Mr Major and the this financial year has been Labour leader accused each

other's parties of playing the "race card" over the forthcomng and controversial Asylum and Immigration Bill, which is designed to reduce bogus asy-

lum applications. Mr Blair, whom senior Tories say will suffer electoral damage Labour opposes the measure. called for the Bill to be referred to a special standing committee that could call expert witnesses and be "a genuinely consensual exercise in getting at the

Mr Major said that while he would consider the request, he was not immediately "attracted" to the idea. In a strong defence of his own record on race relations, he promised that "genuine asylum cases will always receive a ready refuge in our country" and said that "those who attack this Bill, as Mr Blair did, do our excellent race relations no service whatever."

A further cloud was cast over the Government's political fight-back yesterday when Julian Critchley, the Tory MP for Aldershot who is retiring at the election, announced that he would not be voting Conservative for his own MP in Ludlow, the Euro-sceptic Christopher Gill. In a notably unhelpful article in the Evening Standard, Mr Critchley warned that the Tories would probably be in opposition for at least eight years, and added that defeat could Icave the party an "unattractive blend of English nationalists, radicals and populists".

Yesterday's figures have in 1994, will provide vital clues intensified the pressure on the concerning to the state of the Chancellor to come up with a credible budget that will allow While the Prime Minister him to reduce interest rates us on 28 November.

whisker of its all-time low against the German mark and concerns among foreign investors about a give-away hudget, Kenneth Clarke has a difficult task ahead of him.

Today's figures for the public horrowing requirement, which in the first six months of running ahead of the deficit



The Chairman of the Conservative Party, Brian Mawhinney, was sprayed with fluorescent orange paint (right) yesterday while making his way from the House of Commons across College Green for lunchtime broadcast interviews. Demonstrators protesting against the Government's Asylum Bill hurled paint and flour. Alan Duncan, Dr Mawhinney's



parliamentary aide, threatened a citizen's arrest. Four demonstrators were arrested and taken to Charing Cross police station

tion from the right wing of the Conservative Part, will be public finances and just how much he can afford to cut taxtaken on a free vote. The Prime Minister also However, the Chancellor announced a new initiative on

"commonsense practical programme of traditional ConserWith the pound within a may get a fillip from today's inflation figure for October, which is expected in the City to show a fall from 3.9 per cent to 3.7 per cent, as the cuts in mortgage rates made by the building societies feed through and the effects of increases last year drop out.

There were scarcely any surprises in the Queen's speech itself. But Mr Major said that the Divorce Bill, which is

expected to meet stiff opposi-

drugs to secure European Union funding to help the Caribbean States prevent themselves from being used as staging posts for drug traffic from Latin America to Europe.

In an oblique reference to Leah Betts, the student who has been in a coma since taking Ecstasy, Mr Major said that "only in the last few days we have seen ... a tragic case of how drugs can devastate a family".

Reserve Forces Bill Tidying up law, plus a new pow-er of call-up for disaster relief

and beace-keeping **Chemical Weapons Bill** To ratify the Convention to ban making and use of chemical weapons Northern Ireland (Emergency

Provisions) Bill Renewal of emergency powers, this time, more temporary than **Broadcasting Bill** To regulate new digital tech-

Channel Tunnel Rall Link Bill Would allow private sector to build, maintain and operate high-speed railway between Folkestone and London's St

Pancras Nursery Education Bill Vouchers for part-time places for four-year-olds **Grant-Maintained Schools**

Powers to borrow against "non-Student Loans Bill To allow students to obtain subsidised loans from high street

The 16 Bills designed to help Major's recovery. Education (Scotland) Bill Would introduce nursery vouchers north of the border and re-form "Highers" (Scotland's 'A'

> Asylum and Immigration Bill Assumption that asylum seekers from "safe" countries are

Security Service Bill MI5 to fight organised come Criminal Trials Bill Defence lawyers to disclose broad outline of their case in **Housing Bill** Lone mothers would not get pri- violence

ority for council housing but right to buy for some housing association tenants Health Service Ombusds man Bill

Wider powers to consider complaints about doctors and other clinical professionals Community Care Bill Some disabled people would be given cash to huy their own community care

Family Law Bill "No fault" divorce, new emphasis on family mediation, new framework of protections from

'Mad boffin' jailed over computer virus havoc

PETER VICTOR

A "mad and reclusive boffin" who wreaked havoc on computer systems by spreading onscreen viruses across the world was jailed yesterday for 18 months. Christopher Pile, 26, an unemployed computer pro-grammer, dedicated his lonely life in Plymouth, Devon, to the creation and dissemination of the viruses that caused untold damage. Pile had a world-wide reputation as The Black Baron. One company lost £500,000 due to his activities.

: As he was sentenced at Exeter Crown Court yesterday after earlier pleading guilty to 11 offences under the Computer Misuse Act 1990, Judge Jeremy Griggs said damage caused, or

Lloyd's chief resigns

Sheli in Nigeria deal

Peter Middleton stunned the

City last night with a shock resignation as chief executive of the

troubled insurance market

Lloyd's of London. Page 24

Shell and other Western oil

companies signed an agree-

ment yesterday with the Niger-

ian military government to invest in a £2.5bn natural gas



potentially to be caused, could run into millions of pounds. What he designed and released would constitute a threat for the foreseeable future, said the judge. The evidence had confirmed that a "Pandora's Box" had been opened. Not

Space-age forecast

Attacks avoided

not put in an appearance."

IN BRIEF

es, hut he designed another piece of software called Smeg which made the viruses harder to detect. The encryption engine -Smeg - had been released and

could not be reined back. "I dare say you were looking forward to reading in the computer press about the exploits of the Black Baron," said the judge. "Those who seek to reap mindless havoc ou oue of the vital tools of our age cannot expect lenient treatment."

Pile designed the viruses called Pathogen and Queeg, names drawn from the scatalogical science-fiction TV series Red Dwarf, of which Pile was an avid fan. Smeg was also taken from the series. Self-taught wizard ,page 2

V&A chief wants to charge £10 entrance

nology and allow bigger TV-

newspaper companies

Arts Correspondent

The Victoria and Albert Mu-seum is likely to introduce compulsory admission charges and its director believes most visitors can afford to pay £10.

The new director of Britain's national museum of the decorative arts, Alan Borg, has told the trustees that the present system of seeking a voluntary do-nation is unworkable. At present visitors to the London museum are asked to give a £4.50 donation when they enter. No pressure is put on them if they refuse to pay. Many cleary do. The average donation per donor is £2.50 and, according to

And in a forthright and controversial statement of his views. Dr Borg will shortly go on record as saying that most peo-ple who visit the V and A "could afford to pay a £10 entrance fee if they had to". Until now the trustees of

the V and A, headed by Lord Armstrong, the former Cabinet Secretary, have vigorously rejected the idea of compulsory charges publicly, though in fact the board is said to be split on the prospect. Lord Armstrong is thought to be not averse to them, while trustees from the art world such as Professor Christopher Frayling, pro rector at the Royal College of Art, are adamantly opposed.

But Dr Borg is unlikely to be deterred, even though charges

will be deplored by many in the museums and galleries lobby who say free admission encourages the young and the

Dr Borg introduced com-pulsory admission charges in his previous job as head of the Imperial War Museum. Today Dr Borg, who took over from Dame Elizabeth Esteve-Coll at the V and A last month, will make his first public appearance at the museum at the presentation of its triennial report.

But he is understood to have told the trustees already that the system of voluntary donations merely tries to make visitors feel guilty, and is not an efficient way of raising much needed money. The only options are charging or having free admission.



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TV sex doesn't turn off Auntie

Scientists are on the verge of MARIANNE MACDONALD forecasting the "weather" in Media Corespondent Page 3

College sale revelation Viewers are more tolerant of sex A potential buyer for the Royon television than previously al Naval College has revealed the detail of its offer. Page 8 thought, according to new research done for the BBC. Even some of the most conservative watchers - middle-aged women now find sex and nudity on "It was almost midday and the flood of suicide bombers had screen acceptable.

The survey, comparing attitudes now with those in 1985. Robert Fisk on the Algeria's reveals that over the last decade presidential election. Page 14 there has been an increasing liberalisation of attitudes. On sex

aged women have gone up from 44 to 59 per cent The largest shift in attitudes

museum figures, the average amount per visitor is £1.

has been towards homosexual-Between 1985 and 1995 there has been a 20 per cent fall in the notion that homosexuality is offensive on television. Forty per cent of women over 55 now find it acceptable, as do 56 per cent of middle-aged men (35 to 55) and 70 per cent

of young men (18-34). Despite recent complaints about issues as diverse as an orgy scene in Absolutely Fabulous, an attempt by Michele in EastEnders to seduce her married boss, 44 per cent of view-

ers rate the BBC's performance in setting standards of taste and decency as excellent or very good, Stephen Whittle, the chief adviser on editorial policy, told a BBC governors' seminar on taste and decency.

That figure was well above the 27 per cent response for ITV and 15 per cent for Channel 4. The acceptance rate for bad

language has risen from 60 per cent to 75 per cent among young people in the last 10 years. Women over 55 have also become more liberal: in the same period the percentage accepting had language has risen from 30 to 38.



Today's weather and nudity, older women's tol-Rainy in most of the country. erance has gone up by 8 per cent to 41 per cent, while middle-Tonight it will be cold and hreczy. Section Two, Page 25

section **TWO**

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Major takes initiative on Ulster talks

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

John Major yesterday wrote to the Irish Prime Minister, John Bruton, with proposals to get the "twin track" Northern Ire-land peace initiative up and running before the end of the year. Senior British ministers last

night said that all-party inclusive talks could start by next February, but Mr Major refused to withdraw the British demand that the IRA begins de-

PETER VICTOR

The "Black Baron", who spread

computer chaos around the

computer whiz-kid who used a

basic personal computer to

write viruses that have already caused more than £1m of

still attacking computer sys-

old foner with no academic

qualifications who lived alone

in Plymouth, used his natural

talent with computers to create

infamous viruses called

Pathogen and Queeg, based

on expressions used in Red

Dwarf, the BBC's cult television

ol a small band of virus writers

in Britain. He was also the

most infamous, with his virus-

es posted on Internet sites

ogy consultant at S&S Software,

a computer virus and security

firm, said: "If people are intel-

ligent enough to do this sort of

thing why don't they go down

Several computer hackers have gone on lucrative positions

in "poacher turned gamekeep-

er" roles in international soft-

Pile did not take this route.

Instead, Exeter Crown Court

heard that he designed Smeg to

defeat the most sophisticated

anti-virus programme, and

achieve maximum penetration

causing the greatest amount of

In a police interview, Pile said

he wrote the viruses to increase

his self-esteem, and because he

was disappointed there was no

effective viruses in circulation written by a UK virus writer.

who signed them from Black

The viruses devised by Pile,

What made them doubly network.

Baron UK 94, were the two the intention of releasing them

most sophisticated ever written. to the public communications

David Emm. senior technol-

around the world.

fruitful paths."

ware companies.

Pile was the most dangerous

Christopher Pile, a 26-year-

commissioning its weapons hefore Sinn Fein can sit down with the Ulster Unionists.

Brushing aside Irish criticism of Britain for allegedly dragging its heels, Mr Major sought Mr Bruton's support for the strategy involving preparatory talks with all the parties and an international commission to deal with the IRA's stockpile of bombs and

London and Dublin are still at odds over the British demand,

dangerous was another virus, an

encryption engine, or

code-scrambling system, he called Smeg, which could be

attached to the other viruses.

On each infection Smeg would change its form, producing as many as four million different versions.

Pite spread the viruses by

hiding them in innocent-look-

in a piece of anti-virus software

country downloaded from elec-

tronic bulletin boards, unwit-

tingly infecting their own

ware was run, one of the virus-

es attached itself to files and

expanded them - a process which eventually used up all the

system's memory, rendering It

Pile encouraged other com-

puter buffs to write their own

viruses and use his Smeg virus

A third version of the Smeg engine enabled it to exist as an

independent entity which could

be passed on to others for in-

Smeg was available on the Internet in the United States

and Germany, and had reached

criminal elements in Northern

Ireland and the US, Brian Lett,

for the prosecution, told

the court yesterday. "Some future damage is inevitable."

he said. "Its effect is incalcula-

gone to a house in Belfast

bulletin board, called lilegality

Machine, with a version of

Smeg on it. He told the court that Pile

had designed two damaging and destructive viruses with

clusion in their viruses.

which he made available on

completely unusable.

bulletin boards.

Every time a piece of his soft-

ing computer games - and even

which users around the

'Black Baron'

a self-taught

whizz kid

the third condition set out in Washington by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, that the IRA should begin decommissioning its weapons before Sinn Fein is ad-

mitted to the substantive talks. There appeared a willingness London to move forward without resolving that issue. "We don't agree on Washington Three. We can put that on one side temporarily to see if there is a basis for agreement," said a senior Government source.

The willingness to move forward without resolving the cru-cial issue of decommissioning pleased Dublin sources, who welcomed the Prime Minister's letter. "It's been called constructive confusion," said one

source. The twin-track strategy was to be announced at a summit in September, until called off by Dublin after a warning by Sinn Fein that in would not accept the international commission.

Since then, Dublin has been

seeking to persuade Sinn Fein to accept the formula, but talks with Michael Ancram, the Minto get the Ulster Unionists to enter the talks. ister of State for Northern Ire-Mr Major attacked the Sinn land, broke down a week ago,

Fein leadership in his speech to with Sinn Fein demanding that British Army weapons be counted with their own by the the Commons yesterday for refusing to condemn the punishment beatings meted out to victims in Belfast by IRA sup-Dublin supported the British porters. But Downing Street sources made it clear the Prime Government in rejecting that demand, and the success of the initiative will now depend Minister was not setting out a new condition for Sinn Fein to on the ability of the Irish Government to persuade Sinn Fein enter the all-party talks. "It's track approach.

to join the talks process. British something which genuinely up-Ministers meanwhile will have sets him. It is not a new condition, or Washington Four," said the source.

Meanwhile, David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, and ian Paisley, the DUP leader, joined forces at Westminster to mark their united opposition to the Anglo-Irish Agreement ten years ago giving influence over Ulster affairs to the Irish Gov-

They both rejected the twin-

is discharged

The trial of a man accused of murdering his wife, a building society manager, and attempting to deceive police into believing that she was killed by robbers who abducted her from their home, was halted yester-

day and the jury discharged. The trial of Gordon Wardell opened on Tuesday at Oxford Crown Court but came to an unexpected stop after a jury mentber disclosed information to court officials. Mr Wardell, 42, of Meriden, Warwickshire, denies murdering his wife Carol, 39, in September last year. The trial is expected to resume today after a new jury has been sworn in.

Water warning

Pubs in areas of Yorkshire a feeled by planned rota water cuts could be put out of busnesss if the cuts are approved. a public inquiry considering the application by Yorkshire Water heard.

The loss of the daily water

supply in the Calderdale and Kirklees areas would affect food preparation, glass washing and lavatory facilities, the hearing at Dewsbury was told. A decision on the application is expected early next week.

Jouston Jon't ha

Father accused

A man is to appear in court to-day accused of murdering his eight-year-old daughter and her mother. Mark Aryan, 35, of Southwark, south east London, is charged with the murders of Gillian Jacobs. 28, and their daughter Shameen Aryan, whose hodies were found at a house in Tunbridge Wells on Sunday. He is also charged with the attempted murder of Yusef Aryan, aged five, and Ibrahim Aryan, two.

Ford pay talks

Pay negotiations at Ford were continuing last night after union leaders rejected an improved wage offer of 4 per cent this year and a rise to match the inflation rate next year. Management refused to concede a union claim for a two-hour reduction in the working week to 37 hours.

Drink-drive blitz

A comic commercial with a hard-hitting edge will premiere in cinemas across Britain on Friday in a campaign to press home the anti drink-driving message in the run-up to Christmas. The advertisements, by leading beer brand Holsten Pils, feature the American stand-up comedian Denis Leary and use amusing and blunt language and images. They may also be on the small screen in coming weeks. If they are approved by the Independent Television Commission.

Marked down

Water companies have been frozen out of this year's Charter Mark awards because of concern over the quality of some services, Lord Blyth, the chairman of the judging panel, said yesterday. We concluded that, given the general public con-cern, it would be wrong to award any Charter Marks to water companies this year."

Grave fraud.

A pet cemetery owner who promised dog-lovers ornate cas-kets and then buried their ani-mals in hin-liners was convicted of fraud at Derby Crown Court. Freda Cunningham was not in court to hear the verdict and

sentence was adjourned.

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BACK ISSUES Rack returns of the Independent are the title to Peters languages methods 0000 000455

Jumbo art: The sculptor, Antony Heywood, with his work 'Mother and Calf', at Wingham, Kent. The sculpture, which is made from disused shop

Threat of rebellion over Whitehall cuts

Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Lett added that as part of | Senior Tory MPs were last night fend the BBC Overseas Service from the Treasury's five per cent cut in running costs across

Foreign Office sources last night confirmed that the cut in running costs could be passed onto the BBC from the Foreign Office, "It's decided internally bow we sort it out within our budget," said one source.

Peter Temple-Morris, the

Tory MPs, said he was "very already overstretched public concerned about the threat of services such as dole and bena cut and was tabling questions effit offices, said Tony Rouse. for Malcolm Rifkind, the For-vice president of the National not passed on to the BBC Overseas Services, which has been cut by £5m over the past three

Civil Service leaders were also alarmed at the prospect of the five per cent cut in running costs across the board, disclosed in the Independent

It could mean cuts in service

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR

One of the companies bidding

to run rail services is set to win

a 15-year franchise, double the

normal seven-years, in order to

The management buy-out

team bid for the London.

filbury and Southend railway.

which has successfully fought off

three private sector bidders, is based on the premise that a 15-

year term is necessary to allow

the purchase of an entire new

fleet of trains. The franchise di-

rector, Roger Salmon, is in the

final stoges of negotiations with the team and it is thought that

the deal would require the new

operator to provide the trains

within a given timetable or re-

Lowbich the Government's pre-

pared to after the rules in order

The decision shows the extent

vert to a seven-year deal.

allow it to buy new trains.

Rail franchise

for buy-out team

leader of the Madeod group of to the public, and reductions in the Budget by the Chancellor on have escaped the full impact of Union of Civil and Public Servants, representing thousands of lower-paid civil servants.

"Any cut in running costs is bing to cost jobs. It is being done by a Government which is clearly hell-hent on getting cleared by cutting taxes, but it will mean reductions in services. We have got no fat left at all. There is too much being asked of members," he said.

the railways. The commitment

to obtain new trains from the

private sector would be a feath-

er in the cap for the privatisa-

tion initiative, especially after

the criticism earlier this week

ident, Limes Sherwood, who

said that privateation would not

help bring investment to the

"deteriorating rail network"

Sea Containers had insuccess

fully sought 12-year contracts on

tisking for subsidy to provide the

service and white most of the

bids entered so far have been

for more subsidy than current-

le paid to BR, it is thought that

these for LTS were all for less

than the current level of £14.8m

that a surprise bidder, Resur-

gence Railways, is the favourite

to win the contract lor Great

Meanwhile, it has emerged

(on turnover of £53m).

At bids to run lines involve

from the Sea Containers pres-

28 November, and the White- the five per cent cut in running hall unions were last night con-sidering linking up in united out anti-fraud campaigns, which opposition to any threat of job The First Division Associa-

tion, representing 10,000 top grade civil servants, said that a cut of five per cent in running costs would be on top of the freeze imposed on civil service costs in the past two years and

require more staff. But the cuts could still hit their other oper-The FDA spokesman said it was difficult to judge how many posts would be put at risk by the

cut in running costs, but they are hraced for bad news on Budget Day. "If you don't have much in your programme, then a bash at the civil service is an easy

The Inland Revenue and the

Critchley turns against Tories

The cuts will be confirmed in Social Security Department

The veteran Tory MP. Sir Julian Critchley, vesterday dropped a political bombshell by revealing that he will not vote for the par-

ty at the general election. Sir Julian, who is stepping down at the next election, said his decision was based on objections to the Mt for Ludlow (the constituency where he will spend his retirement), the Euroceptic, Christopher Gill,

However, Sir Julian said he sould not back Labour or the Liberal Democrats,

He announced his decision in newspaper article in which he fired a devastating broadside at the "less well-educated, deeply prejudiced and chauvinist" Tory party left by Margaret (now Barowess) Thatcher, and wrote oft the chances of a Tory election victory.

The timing of the attack - on the day the Dovernment intveiled its legislative package for the new session of Parliament

- will infuriate John Major and senior ministers.

The left-leaning MP for Aldershot, who has been no stranger to controversy during a colourful political career, said he could not bring himself to vote for Mr Gill, who was one of nine Tories removed from the whip at the turn of the year. Sir Julian said Mr Gill would

take Britain out of Europe. Should any Tory who has been pro-Europe since the days of throld Macmillan and a member of the One Nation group of Tories be obliged to vote for a candidate who not only lost the party whip in 1994, hut ... does not seem to care whether his party wins or not?"

Evening Standard. "I shall sit on my hands. Blair's new Labour Party holds an attraction for me and nothing on earth would persuade me

Sir Julian wrote in the London

to encourage new arcestment on Red card for the up-front greengrocer

truit and vegetables from outside his shop after a High Court indge vesterday roled that the pasement display was breaking

In a case which affects shapkeepers all over the country, the sudge said the display natside. Brian Godfrey's premises in likeston, Darbyshire, eid eenstitute a "nuisance" in law as it obstructed the povement and local magistrates had been wrong to find otherwise.

No members of the public had complained and no accident had been caused by Mr Godand other produce.

Jee Marphy, chairman of Derbyshire's highways and transport committee, said,"I has upheld the county council's obstruction of the lighway is a

the benefit of pedestrians » particularly disabled people, people with imparted eight and parents with pushchairs. If we

precedent could have been set."

A legal expert said the judg-ment made clear it was for local authorities to decide how am pleased that the High Court - to exercise their discretion in such cases. Yesterday's ruling argument that any unlawful did not mean that the custom of shopkeepers displaying their wares on pavements would now "The conneil is firmly of the disappear - only that it would opinion that pavements are for - continue to be subject to local people, and that they should be authority control. The Labourkept clear of all obstructions for - controlled council brought the appeal, supported by many oth-

er local authorities, to have the law claritied. Mr Godfrey, who escaped a

potentially large bill for legal costs when the council decided not to seek a costs order against him, said: "I hope other councils will act more sensibly."

Mr Godfrey was supported by a 75tl-signature petition and had offered the council a compromise over the size of his display, which was turned down.

Mr Godfrey, 54, whose display protruded about one metre on to the 2.5m wide payement, said: "I really can'r believe that anybody in authurity would go as far as this against a small businessman like me." He said the future of

his business was in doubt following a 74 per cent drop in trade since 1992

A former miner, he bought his greengrocer's business at 1986 after being made redundant from the pits. "The fruit and veg will come in now. The law is the taw and I am a law-abiding person," he said.

Mr Justice Hidden said he had ruled against the greengrocer with some "sadness" because it was clear that he was "hardworking man" whose business had already been hit by decisions to baild a hypery and pedestriance part of likley.

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The final frontier: A box of chocolates and three carnations mark the occasion as Atlantis and Mir linked in silent darkness



Houston, we don't have a problem

-TOM WILKIE Science Editor

Every day since he went aboard the Mir space station on 5 September, the German astronaut Thomas Reiter has been beaten 500 times on the heel - at the hehest of scientists from Bristol University.

Yesterday, however, he got a break from his daily "bastinado" while astronauts and cosmonauts shook hands in orbit as the space shuttle Atlantis joined the Russian space station in orbit 392 kilometres (245 miles) above Earth, for the second time in four months.

About two and a half hours after steering Atlantis to a flawless docking with the 125-ton station, the shuttle commander Kenneth Cameron opened the hatch separating the spacecraft and greeted the Mir commander Yuri Gidzenko with a box of chocolates and three flowers: peach-coloured carnations. On the shuttle is the Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield, and the combined crews represent the United States, Russia, Canada and the European

The mix of nationalities is a record for a single spacecraft, and represents four out of the five participants in the planned international space station, Alpha, which is due to start in 1997. Japan is the other contributor to the space station project, for which the present mission is a pathfinder.

155 BORN

This second Atlantis-Mir link-up was considered trickier

first, in late June, because of a 4.5m (15ft) docking tunnel jutting out of the shuttle cargo bay. The shuttle crew's first job during this mission is to deliver the tunnel, so the next five dockings will be easier and safer. The tunnel will remain part of Mir after Atlantis leaves

Reiter and his Russian colleagues, however, will continue in orbit until 29 February 1996. The mission has been extended by 44 days so that Reiter will spend 180 days in space - a record for a European astronant, For most of the time, he will have been a human guinea pig, with all his bodily functions being monitored to assess the effects of prolonged weightlessness on the human body.

The results could hold the key to understanding down-to-earth diseases such as osteoporosis, according to Professor Allen Goodship, of Bristol University. People may feel that space is a luxury, he said, "but there are things you can do in space that give information on conditions people experience on the

Together with colleagues from the engineering department at nearby Bath universi-ty, Professor Goodship has designed and huilt a machine which mimics the mechanical shock that bones endure as the heet strikes the ground repeat-

edly while walking on earth. Professor Goodship pointed out that although the cosmonauts exercise for a minimum

and more dangerous than the of two hours everyday, on bicycles and rowing machines, the bones in their legs still get thinner and weaker as a result of weightlessness. The process appears similar to that of postmenopausal osteoporosis.

The skeleton is not just an inert piece of scaffolding sup-porting the rest of the body, said Professor Goodship, but a dynamic tissue which responds to mechanical stresses. He hopes that his machine will stimulate the bone cells to maintain bone density during the flight. One heel is being hit 500

times during the daily 10-minute sessions while the other is left unstimulated. The thickness of Reiter's bones was measured before he took off, is being measured during the flight and will be measured again when he lands, to see if there is any difference between the two legs.

originating from the Hammersmith hospital in London, requires the hapless Reiter to wear a tourniquet round one ankle, to which pressure is intermittently applied for one hour each day. Researchers will also peer at

his chromosomes to see if any aberrations develop during his sojourn in space. The state of his lungs and of his cardiovascular system will be assessed and the levels of hormones in his blood and urine will be moni-



Beating the weather from space

DANNY PENMAN

Scientists are on the verge of forecasting the "weather" in space, crucial for such diverse industries as telecommunications, power, oil and gas distribution.

The solar wind, containing fast and energetic, charged particles, hlows constantly out-wards from the Sun. The Earth's magnetic field shields the surface from the buffeting gales but several times per year Another British experiment, the wind causes surges in the aura surrounding the planet.

The massive changes in the magnetic field can knock out communications satellite cause electricity black-outs and interfere with television and radio broadcasts.

In March 1989 a huge solar storm blacked out half of Canada's electricity distribution system and deflected compasses by

up to 70 degrees. The oil and gas industries have also come to fear the effects of the solar wind. The fluxtored. In the last month of the es in the earth's magnetic field flight, he will take Vitamin K es in the earth's magnetic field can induce electrical currents tablets, as part of another ex- which can trigger explosions. periment on bone density loss. The greatest danger they face

is corrosion which can be enhanced by the electricity coursAgency (ESA) and NASA ing along the metal pipelines.
At least one gas pipeline explosion, which claimed more

than 650 lives, is thought to have been the result of electrically induced corrosion caused by fluxes in the Earth's magnetic field. They were killed when a fireball engulfed two trains on the Trans-Siberian line in June

The first step to forecasting surges in the solar wind and predicting its effect on the Earth will he taken next Thursday

launch a new satellite to study the Sun. Early next year four other satellites will be launched as part of the same programme.

SOHO, the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory, will be launched first. The £400 million satellite will blast off from Kennedy Space Center and travel 1.5 million kilometres towards the Sun and hang exactly halanced between the gravitational pull of the Sun and

The satellite, to which Britain

has contributed more than £40m, contains a battery of detectors which will allow scientists to build up a detailed picture of the internal structure

composition of the solar wind. Some of its telescopes may reveal what heats the corona, the suns atmosphere, and drives the solar wind. Particle detectors will link the gusts in the solar wind to upheavals in the Sun's surface.

of the Sun, its atmosphere and

Another detector, known as Golf, will monitor the rbythmic start making solar weather pre-

caused by massive sound waves as they pass through the star.

The next step to forecasting will be taken early next year when another four satellites, known as Cluster, will be launched. Cluster will monitor the interaction of the solar wind and the Earth's magnetic field in three dimensions.

Once the effects felt on the Earth and satellites can be linked to precise events on the Sun and within the solar wind then the scientists hope they can movements in the sun's surface dictions within five years.

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BBC set to make a king's ransom from Diana film

LOUISE JURY and MARIANNE MACDONALD

The world is set to be stunned by the astonishingly honest interview given by the Princess of Wales to the BBC, it emerged yesterday.

As the Corporation began sifting bids from every major broadcaster in the world for the rights to show the Panorama programme, informed speculation pointed to the Princess having pulled no punches when she talked to reporter Martin

It is understood that she has spoken fluently on all the key questions of her family, separation and future, in the hourlong programme which BBC bosses helieve will prove a riveting insight into the Charles

and Diana story.
Worldwide interest in the special documentary was described yesterday as "unprecedented" by one television insider, even though details of a handful and are not being re-vealed in advance of Monday's

Tony Hall, managing director of news and current affairs, said the tape had been seen by only eight people, including John Birt, the Director General, but not Marmaduke Hussey. the Chairman of the Governors whose wife is Lady-in-Waiting to the Queen.

He revealed that Princess Diana gave the final go-ahead about two weeks ago, after several meetings with Mr Bashir during his research for a programme on the constitution. Filming took place without any Royal aides or press officers present on 5 November, when the Queen was in New Zealand.

There were no constraints. "The only request we had from the Princess of Wales was that she was to tell the Palace first that she had done the interview and she asked us to abide by that," Mr Hall said. "It was a proper interview over a wide range of issues including the



has astonished the BBC

role of the princess and her fu-The BBC is sensitive about being seen to benefit commer-cially from the programme. cially from the programme, which has dismayed Bucking-

ham Palace, but sources sug-gested the bidding could bring one of the major American

ed the straightforward format of a head-to-head interview made the sales virtually "all profit". Other recent successes have notched up significant sales abroad but were more expensive to make. The People's Century history documentary series has brought in £5m, but that was only half the production cost. The hugely popular adaptation of Austen's Pride and Prejudice has been licensed to nine countries so far, with contracts worth A BBC source added: "[The

interview] could end up being seen by more people in the world than any other programme has been before.

But the official spokesman said that although it was in discussion with a "large number of foreign broadcasters," the BBC did not expect to finalise any of the sales before Friday at the carliest

channels, confirmed it was A BBC spokesman conced- among the bidders

The art of getting one's own back

REBECCA FOWLER

Revenge is a dish best served cold, according to the Italians. This was not the approach taken by the first Mrs TS Eliot, who poured hot melted chocolate through her husband's office letterbox when his secretary refused to pass on her calls.

But the most recent practifioners of getting one's own back, like the Princess of Wales.

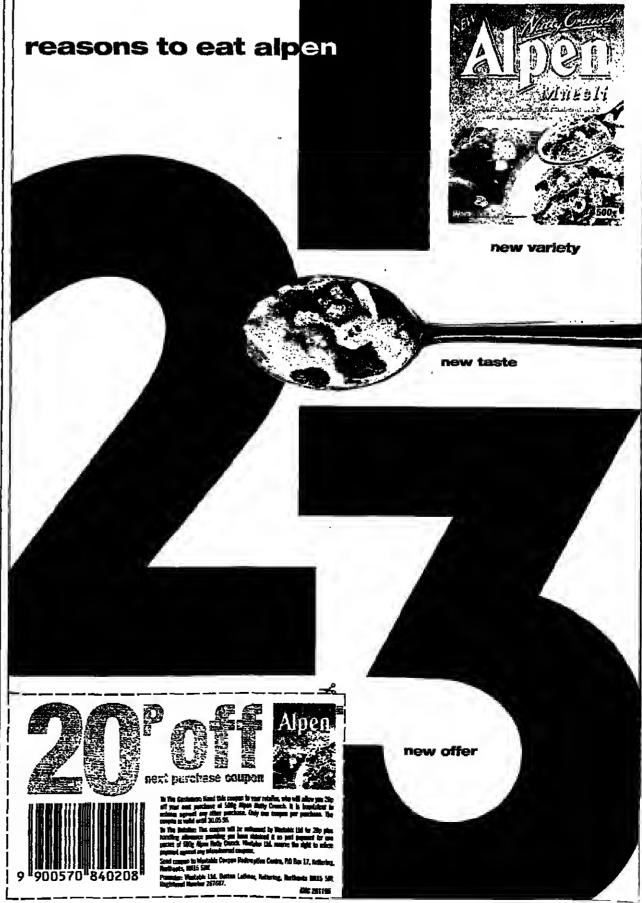
piot. Destroying clothing, planting mustard seed on an unfaithful partner's soaked carpet, and hiding rotten fish inside curtain rails are now commonplace.

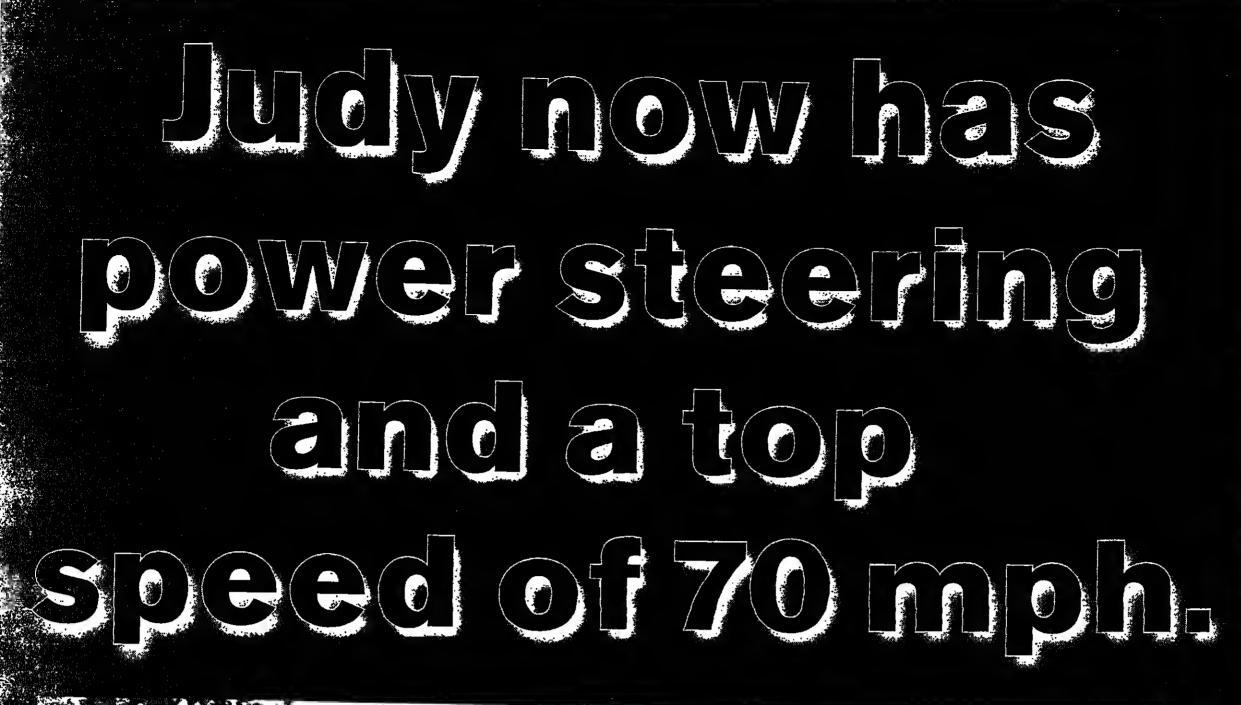
Lady Sarah Graham-Moon, whose husband, Sir Peter, went off with another woman, cut off the sleeves of his Savile Row suits, daubed paint over his BMW car and delivered his vin-

Seeking vengeance is as old as civilisation. Samson lost his strength when Delilah cut off his hair. But it is not only domestic revenge that flourishes. John Lennon and Paul McCartney waged a musical war against each other after the Beatles solit up by writing songs about their

erstwhile partner. The most memorable polititage wine to doorsteps around cal revenge was the blow Ge-

have allowed themselves time to the village like bottles of milk. Offrey Howe dealt against Baroness Thatcher in his resignation speech as deputy prime minister after years of service. "The time has come for others to consider their own response to the tragic conflict of loyalties with which I have myself wrestled for perhaps too long," he said, felling her with the best tool of revenge of all, the one the Princess of Wales is about to take up - words.





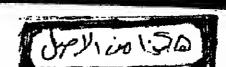


£30,000 has been given by the National Lottery Charities Board to buy a 16-seat minibus for the Stafford Swallows Sports Club for the Disabled.

The specially adapted minibus will give those with physical and learning disabilities the chance to take part in various sporting activities like swimming and bowling. It's one of thousands of projects, big and small, that will benefit from all the money you're helping to raise. For every pound you spend on The National Lottery or National Lottery Instants, 28p goes to the Good Causes chosen by Parliament, Namely, Sport, Arts, Heritage, Charities and projects to celebrate the Millennium. Over £1 billion has been raised so far, to help people all over the country, Just like Judy here. It means whenever you play The National Lottery, you'll be helping someone else to further themselves.



THE NATIONAL LOTTERY CHARITIES BOARD IS INDEPENDENT OF CAMELOT GROUP PLC AND THE OOVERNMENT.



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we held in of the for drug supplier

Euro Disney takes the Mickey into profit



Photograph: Paut Lowe/Magnum

Jey 1001:50

Euro Disney's decision to slash admission prices by 22 per cent in April is already yielding financial gains at its theme park, Disneyland Paris. The company yesterday reported its first ever profit, albeit tiny at Ffr2m (£262,000), a year ahead of schedule.

The price cuts, accompanied by an extensive television advertising campaign, helped boost attendance numbers by almost 22 per cent from last year's depressed 8.8 million to 10.7 million in the 12 months to the end of September. Attendance in the first year of operation in 1993 was 9.8 million.

Leisure analysts in the City, however, do not share the management's optimism about the future. In particular, they continue to harbour negative views ahout the company's financial health, despite the recent refinancing that crased Ffr8.8bn of debts from the balance sheet.

The reaction among investors yesterday was equalas negative. The shares dropped 21p to 194p, and the

steepness of the fall triggered an automatic suspension of share dealings on the Paris hourse.

The profit announced yesterday was only achieved cour-tesy of banks allowing the company a holiday on Fir600m of interest payments on loans, and a separate waiver by the Walt Disney company on mangement fees and royalties.

Euro Disney's holiday on interest payments begins to wind down from next year. In 1996 its interest charges will rise by Ffr120m, by another Ffr230m in 1997, and a further Ffr120m the following year. Walt Disney, which owns a 39

per cent share stake in the company, intends to start charging Euro Disney hundreds of millions of francs for management time and for copyright royalties in 1999. Steve Burke, chief operating

officer of Euro Disney, yesterday acknowledged the problem. but said he was confident that it could be overcome. Revenues, he said, only needed to be increased by 5 per cent each year to cover the additional payments to the banks and Disney.

"Our bad times are behind us and talk of whether we have built the park in the right place or whether it will ever be prof-

itable is in the past." he added. However, analysts said the company would have to run fast to stand still given the adverse economic conditions across Europe and the strength of the French currency.

More people may be going to the theme park, but once inside they are reluctant to spend more money than the previous year's visitors. Only 25 per cent of revenue comes from admission charges, currently Ffr195 per adult in the high season, falling to Ffr150 in the winter.

New revenue streams are being developed through building additional leisure facilities for guests staying at its hotels such as a multi-screen cinema, and by targeting families.

Talks are being held with Eurostar to run charter trains. complete with Disney characters on board, direct from Waterloo to the park. Britons account for 10 per cent of total visitors, and are among the higher spenders.

Cholesterol drug cuts heart attacks

GLENDA COOPER

A new drug which slows the production of cholesterol in the liver has had "striking" results in reducing risk to people with high levels of the fat-like

The study found that lowering cholesterol can reduce heart attacks by nearly one-third and

the risk of death by 22 per cent. Coronary heart disease is the single most important cause of death in the UK and throughout the industrialised world. In 1993, 70 per cent of UK adults had high cholesterol levels.

The West of Scotland Coronary Prevention Study trial of the drug pravastatin, sold under the name Lipostat, included 6.500 men from the Glasgow

area over a five-year period. All had high cholesterol levels. All were aged between 45 and 64 and 81,000 men were considered for inclusion in the

Half the patients were given Lipostat and half a placebo. Neither volunteers nor scientists knew which had which.

The findings from the study. revealed at the American Heart Association in California yesterday, showed a 31 per cent reduction in risk from a first heart attack or non-fatal heart

The chances of death from heart disease also went down by 32 per cent and death from any cause went down by 22 per cent.

High cholesterol levels have always been viewed as a major risk factor for heart disease, but until now it was not known

whether treatment with a cholesterol-lowering drug could help people avoid a first heart

Cholesterol is a fat-like substance or lipid, produced by the liver and also absorbed into the body from foods such as eggs, meat; dairy products and other animal-based foods.

High levels can form plaque, a thick hard deposit, which clogs the arteries and restricts the flow of blood and oxygen to the heart and brain.

Professor James Shephard Professor of Pathological Biochemistry at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, who also led the study, said: "These are some of the most striking data I have ever seen in heart attack and total mortality reduction.

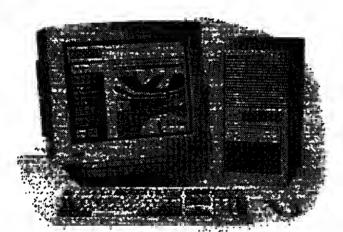
The findings strongly support current treatment guidelines and irrefutably encourage physicians to actively treat people who are at risk of heart at-

He added: "We can now say with confidence that pravastatin reduces the risk of heart attack and death, not just in those with established heart disease but also amongst those who are at risk of their first heart attack."

Michael Turner, director of the Family Heart Association, said: "The cholesterol controversy that has raged for half a century is a controversy no

A spokesman for the Coro-nary Prevention Group welcomed the study's findings but said that the best way for people to keep cholesterol levels down was by following a healthy

If it were a matter of just one good PC-review, just one award, we wouldn't think it's worth a whole ad.





But Celebris and Venturis

are different.

Five held in hunt for drug girl's supplier

Police investigating the supply of ecstasy to drug victim Leah Betts yesterday arrested five

Detectives also issued an urgent appeal to trace an anonymous woman telephone caller who gave information which they say could provide a key lead in the hunt for the drug pusher who supplied Leah, 18, who was still fighting for her life

An Essex police spokes-woman said the arrests followed raids on four addresses in Basildon. A 25-year-old man and an 18-year-old woman were taken from one address and two 19-year-old men arrested from two separate locations. The fifth arrest, of another 19-yearold man, was made later.

All four men were being held on suspicion of supplying a controlled drug while the woman was detained on suspicion of possessing counterfeit currency. All five suspects were being questioned at Basildon police station.

Leah yesterday remained in a coma on a ventilator at Broomfield hospital, Chelmsford, where a spokesman said

her condition was critical. The student collapsed after taking an cestasy tablet, marked at her parents' home at Latch-

ingdon, Essex. Five people aged between 17 and 19 have already been interviewed and released on police bail, but their arrests on Monday were not thought to have been specifically connected with inquiries into the supply of drugs to Leah.

The anonymous caller whom police are trying to trace tele-phoned Chelmsford police at 11am on Tuesday. The woman told police on Friday night she and a friend were in Raquels nightclub in Basildon, the place where Leah is thought to have bought the ecstasy.

They saw a young man 'serve up' ecstasy tablets similar to those taken by Leah," a police spokeswoman said. "One girl, not thought to be Leah, was seen to buy a tablet and shortly afterwards was violently ill and shaking. We are anxious for any of these three girls to con-

tact police. Detective Chief Inspector Brian Storey said: "We consider this to be a very strong lead. Any information will be treated in the strictest confidence."

It was disclosed yesterday that the ecstasy tablet taken by Leah was not contaminated. However, there was no explawith an apple motif, at her nation as to why Leah suffered 18th birthday party on Sunday such a devastating reaction.

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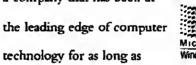
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November 1995

"VENTURIS PERFORMANCE RAFES WETH GREAT WINDOWS MARKS WITH TO GRAPHICS AND HIGH DISK SCORES. PC Computing June 1995



Asylum & Immigration Bill

The big political football, devised by Home Secretary Michael Howard. Subject of heavy pre-emptive assault yesterday as Tony Blair demanded debate in a "special standing committee" which could take evidence and call witnesses. It would mean assuming asylum seekers from "safe" countries were cheating, and a curtailed appeals procedure. Political punch:

Furious charge and counter-charge as each party accuses the other of playing the Real Importance:

Will matter to the 30,000-plus applicants for refugee status each year, and to Britain's

Family Law Bill

Divorce reform, to abolish "quickie" divorces and require a cooling-off period. Plus the resurrection of plans to clarify legal protection from dome violence, held over after Ill-informed Tory moral majority revolt, which could now spread to the divorce issue.

Political punch: Boomerang potential as Tory rebeis geer up to defend "the secred institution of the family"

Real importance: will matter to one in three couples who divorce, and many victims of domestic

Grant-maintained Schools Bill

Schools which have opted out of local council control will be given powers to borrow against "non-core" assets. Tories will taunt Blair over his choice of school. But the real political battle comes later with plans to abolish parent ballots for church schools to opt out, which could boost grant-maintained status.

Political punch: Tories think this issue works for them, while Labour will say they are selling off playing

Real Importance: More financial independence for the minority of opted-out schools

Broadcasting Bill

To take into account new digital To take into account new digital technology, which means at least 18 extra television citarurets, and allow Ty/newspaper mergers (but excluding Rupert Mundochaind Mirror Group). Tories claim it will help make Britain the "enterprise centre of Europe". Political punctur our rows over Blain's (not directly releted) "deat", with RT.

elated) "deal" with BT lead importance: gilal technology may be overtaken by ble, but control of media mergers

Asylum clampdown sparks race-bias fears

IMMIGRATION

JASON BENNETTO

The forthcoming Asylum and Immigration Bill will be one of the Government's most controversial pieces of new legislation and has already provoked accusations that it is playing the race card in the run up to the general election.

One of the central planks of the Bill, whose main aim is to restrict the number of people claiming asylum, is the creation of a so called "white list" of countries, deemed to he "safe" and therefore unlikely to produce real refugees, Applications from the listed countries will be given a "fast-track" treatment

Tony Blair, the Lahour leader, yesterday attacked the Bill, saying: "Race and immigration should not be the play-thing of party politics." He called on the Government to refer it to a special Commons standing committee that could scrutinise the legislation and test whether it is justified.

An indication of the sensitivity of the Bill was revealed by the Government's unwillingness to published any details of the proposed legislation. Last week, Michael Howard.

the Home Secretary, retreated from an earlier plan to include legislation to fine employers who hire illegal immigrants. He has now agreed to put the proposal out to consultation following opposition from em-ployers' organisations, civil rights groups and the Depart-ment for Education and Employment, which feared it could result in companies being less ready to recruit ethnic minority staff. Meanwhile it is expected that the Bill will require employers to check the records of potential recruits, in an effort to stop illegal immigrants working, backed up by a "light, reg-

ulatory approach". Another expected proposal is the abolition of full appeal rights to those refugees arriving via a safe third country, such as

Running alongside the Bill are measures announced by



impossible to enter the country lum to claim benefit, in a move designed to save up to £200m

However the key proposal in the Bill - the "white list" - is designed to accelerate and reduce the cost of processing asylum

proof will be on the applicant. They will be dealt with under a fast-track appeals procedure, that is expected to last days rather than months.

Countries that are expected to appear on the list include Ghana. India, Pakistan. Bulclaims. Asylum applications garia, Romania and Poland. The Government believes previous year.

ty Secretary, which will make it tries will be presumed to be un- the measures will act as a defounded and the hurden of lerrent to people who are eco-

> The Home Office points to figures published in October that showed that in the 12 months to the end of June, there were 37,900 applications for asylum (excluding dependants) received in the UK, an increase of almost 50 per cent over the

However, while it is true that in the UK from 20,000 in 1992

more people are applying for 10 5,000 in 1994. asylum, far fewer are being allowed entry. Of the 25,000 cases decided in the year to June this year, only 1,100 people were granted asylum - less than as "one of the most irresponsiwere granted asylum - less than 5 per cent. The Asylum and Immigration

Appeals Act 1993 has already dramatically cut the number of refugees being allowed to stay

ity of asylum seekers being sent home to face lorture, persecu-Claude Moraes, director of tion or even death. the Joint Council for the Wel-Narendra Makanji, chair-man of the Anti-Racist Alble playing of the race card in

liance, added that unions and immigrant welfare groups would unite to defeat the Bill. "This Bill is undouhtedly a curing up of a "white list" of sup-posedly safe countries would tain-raiser for a Tory racist campaign in the run-up to the

ag-bag i Vouchers 'may cost more than places'

NURSERY SCHEME FRAN ABRAMS

Education Correspondent

Plans to offer nursery vouchers to the parents of all four-yearolds could cost more in administration fees than in funding

extra places for children. Last night Labour's education spokesman, David Blunkett, said a pilot scheme in just four local authorities would cost £5m in administration fees - more than the £4.95m cost of offering an extra 4,500 places in those areas. The hulk of the total £22m cost would go on pay-

ing for existing nursery places. So far, the London Boroughs of Kensington and Chelsea. Wandsworth and Westminster have signed up for the scheme. Norfolk has provisionally agreed to take part, and Buckinghamshire is also considering it, but the pilot, due to begin in April 1996 has been boycotted by the majority of local au-

Mr Blunkett accused ministers of bending to right-wing rhetoric instead of following common-sense policies: "Instead of tackling the real issues, the Government has jurched to the right so much that it is only interested in introducing the extremist cast-offs from right-

wing think tanks."
The legislation to be introduced would give all parents a voucher with which they could purchase nursery education in either the public or the private sector. There will be no meanstesting for those who wish to join the scheme.

All schools participating in the scheme would have to meet certain minimum standards. and would be inspected regu-

Church protest delays opt-out plans Single parents to lose

DOUL HIIDUL Education Editor

Proposals to include clauses in the hill creating a fast-track for church schools to become grant-maintained without a parental hallot have been delayed after fierce opposition from Anglican and Roman Catholic hishops.

The Department for Educa-tion and Employment said yesterday that it was still consulting on the plans. Anglican hishops will fight any proposals when they reach the House of Lords. They say church school parents should have the same right to vote on opting out as county school parents.

The Bishop of Coventry, the Right Rev Simon Barrington-Ward, said earlier this week that

FRAN ABRAMS

taking part.

Education Correspondent

A question mark hung over the

Government's plans to privatise

student loans last night as banks

expressed scepticism about

Ministers hope to save up to

£1bn a year by persuadiog financial insolutions to take

on most of the cost of student

Company would continue 10

wanted them, but it is hoped

The existing Student Loans

EDUCATION

with the Christian message because they gave church schools

track for church schools to opt out in a speech in July as a way of making opting out more attractive. John Major said gov-ernors should be able to take the decision without consulting

quango on opting out has

Southwark's diocesan director of education and a member of the Funding Agency for Schools board, has written to church

STUDENT GRANTS

that the banks might be pre-pared to take much of the risk

and expense in order to win a higger share of student business. Talks with the High Street

hanks are still continuing, but

last night they displayed little

was launched in 1990, was orig-inally intended to involve the

hanks hut they pulled out

because they did not believe it

would be profitable.

The present scheme, which

privileged position and disadvantaged other schools. The Prime Minister announced his support for a fast-

But even a church leader who is a member of the Government

condemned the plan.
Canon Gerald Greenwood,

board believes that the removal of the requirement to hold a

parental hallot is "highly un-desirable... Where a school has gone grant-maintained, the success of such a venture depends on the continued support of the parents and a vote will have given clear evidence of their

The Church of England's board of education is expected to back this viewpoint.
Church officials are also

strongly opposed to the idea in the Government consultation paper that all schools should be made grant-maintained unless they opt to remain with the local authority.

Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, has extended the consultation period on church

Banks are sceptical over loan scheme

Barclays said it had not yet com-

mitted itself to the latest plans.

"We have made it very clear that any arrangement to run a

scheme would have to be run on a commercial basis." she said.

gested last night that ministers

would have preferred to hand over the whole scheme to the

hanks, but that they would not

accept any such arrangement.
They added that the level of

unpaid deht, caused hy de-

faulters and by graduates on low incomes deferring payment.

Last night a spokeswoman for was too high. Figures published a "two-tier" loans system with

Other banking sources sug-

ernors. Her department said that ministers had neither ruled in nor out any of the options.
There were only 15 ballots in 4.000 voluntary-aided or church

schools on grant-maintained status between August 1994 and August 1995 and only six voted to opt out. The grant-maintained schools Bill will allow opted out

schools to borrow against their assets, thought to be worth about £2hn.

They will also be able to keep all the money for selling off assets instead of giving half to local authorities as they do at present.

Critics say schools will start to sell off their playing fields and that the plans are not compatible with the Prime Minister's determination to promote

earlier this week showed that of the £1.29hn so far lent to stu-

dents, only £70m has been

repaid.
The banks would have to

offer hans to students at no

more than the inflation-level in-

terest rate currently offered by

the loan company. However, they might be able to offer dis-counts for faster repayment or

repayment over a longer

Labour's education spokesman,

said the changes would create

Last night David Blunkett.

period than the company.



Gillian Shephard: extended

students who were considered

to be a high financial risk being

forced to borrow from the loan company. What was needed was a thorough review of

student maintenance, he said.

In Scotland, the Govern-

ment published plans to estab-

lish a joint examinations board

to offer both academic and

vocational qualifications. It also plans to end requirements for local authorities north of the

border to obtain the secretary

of state's permission before

embarking on large-scale school

council house priority

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Lone parents and families with children are to lose their priority claim to a council house under a Housing Bill which will provide a new right to buy for hous-

recent years". He said the draw-

ing association tenants. The move comes as single parents face a freeze in Lone Parent Premium and One Parent Benefit in the Budget. In addition, the £5.20 a week premium, which is part of Income Support, is expected to be abolished for new cases.

The Queen's Speech con-firms, however, that Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, has won his bat-tle not to abolish the universal One Parent Benefit for new cases - a move which would have required primary legisla-tion and which Mr Lilley feared might not get through the Commons, given the Government's

Slim majority.
Under the housing legisla-tion, councils will only have to house the homeless in temporary accommodation, and they will be told to redesign their allocation schemes so that people declared statutorily homeless do not jump the queue for permanent accommodation ahead of others on the waiting list ~ for example, couples who may not yet have children hut who live in substandard accommo-

Ministers claim such a move

SOCIAL SECURITY

will "reflect the underlying val-ues of society" and halance housing needs "against the need to support married couples who take a responsible approach to

But while the Government argues that will be fairer, the two main local authority associations vesterday claimed it would spell "misery" for homeless people and their children. The Chartered Institute of Housing said the Government was putting at risk the positive proposals in the planned Bill by persisting with

the homelessness proposals. The legislation will include giving tenants the right to buy new homes huilt by housing associations and grants worth between £8,000 and £16,000. which will enable some housing association tenants to buy their existing homes. Houses built in communities of fewer than 3,000 people will be exempt however, to ensure that associations can continue to huild in

rural areas without the stock being lost for local people. Commercial providers are to be allowed to compete for housing association grants and a string of measures are aimed at hringing more private mon-ey into social housing. These include setting up local housing companies which can use private finance to take over coun-

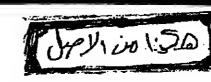
cil houses. In addition, new Housing

ated in which breaks against capital gains and corporation tax will be used to encourage financial institutions to invest in

homes for rent. The Bill will, however, end mandatory renovation grants, producing a system which the Government claims will be more flexible. Housing associations and others, however, fear the Budget will cut housing investment heavily. The local authority associations said the effect would be to "push the country into a spiral of wors-ening housing conditions in the

private sector". All social landlords - housing associations, the new private social landlords and those who take over council housing are expected to be made subject to the Housing Association Tenants' Ombudsman, who aircady operates on a voluntary basis, but who will now be givon statutory powers.
Other measures will make

letting easier for small landlords and create a statutory right to adjudication in disputes over construction contracts. The arrangements for registering architects will also be simplified A Community Care (Direct Payments) Bill will allow the disabled to buy their own packages of care through cash grants from local authorities. The Bill will allow local authorities to decide whether or not to use their



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THE QUEEN'S SPEECH

Nursery Education Bill

A fimited pilot scheme for vouchers worth £1,100, which parents of fouryear-olds could spend on a part-time place at a local council nursery school, a private school or a pre-school playgroup. To be extended nationwide months before the 1997 election. Political punch:

big battle over education choice when election "bribe" arrives Real importance:

matters a lot to 150,000 four-year-olds presently not at nursery school

Criminal Trials Bill

Defence lawyers would have to disclose broad outline of their case in advance of trials. Liberal lawyers hate it; but barristers Straw and Blair have no problem with much of it. tosofar as it is designed to stop so-called "ambush defences" - where defendants waste court time with last-minute stories - it is

Political punch: Howard wants to portray the opposition as soft on criminals, but they're not

Real importance: Could speed up court proceedings

Housing Bill

Lona mothers would not get priority for council housing. Labour will try to avoid seeming to defend feckless young women who allegedly get pregnant to get a home, and will point out that families with children are also hit. Political punch:

Strong issue for Tory moral majoritarians, but Blair's not keen on parents who choose to go it alone either Real importance: Depends on detail, but could increase

Security Service Bill

M15 would adopt a role against organised crime, to bolster Tory claims to be tough on drug dealers. Goes with steps towards a national police force. the so-called "new FBI". There'e nothing to suggest how MI5 officers would be accountable - they'd still give evidence behind screens. Political punch:

Tories will revel in crack force of secret service agents, Labour will oppose secrecy Real importance:

Redirection of security forces from



Blair dismisses 'rag-bag ideas to save Tories'

STEPHEN GOODWIN

Control Species

Tony Blair dismissed the Queen's Speech as a "pathetic mouse", a rag-hag of right-wing ideas designed only to se-cure the survival of the Conservative Party.

In a testy response, John Major accused the Labout leader of "a remarkable, chameleon-like ability to change political colour, depending on the audience" and commended the "common-sense" policies of the speech.

Our legislative programme is the right programme for this country. It will also be a litmus test for the Opposition," the Prime Minister said.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said it was programme of "fag-end measures from a fag-end Govern-ment". The real event that mattered would be the Budget in two week's time. "This Government has nothing further to say to the nation, except 'please vote for us because we are we want far out

With the party political game being played in earnest by both sides of the Huuse, Mr Blair seized the initiative when it became apparent Government whips had instructed backbenchers to barrack him but not to try and intervene.

What a pathetic bunch they are," the Labour leader taunted. "To think that these people can keep themselves in government for another 18 months is a tragedy for this country."

Opening on the common ground of Northern Ireland, Mr Blair promised continued support for the Government so long as Labour believed ministers were acting in good faith in the search for peace.

But he found the rest of the Queen's Speech "utterly irrelevant" to the interests of Britain. "It is all about the interests of the Tory party, cobhling together any old bric-a-hrac of legislation that can keep the Conservative Party in one piece." The only way this could be done was by "appeasing" the right, he said. "It as far from one-nation politics

COMMONS DEBATE

He pointed out the curiosity of Tuesday's press hriefing on the speech given by Brian Mawhinney, chairman of the Conservative Party, rather than by the Leader of the House, as was traditional, or a minister.

Mr Mawhinney had "given the game away" by claiming the purpose of the Queen's Speech was to smoke out Labour, "Not to provide new energy or ideas or vitality for Britain, but to smoke out the Opposition. Not to help the people of Britain but to play a game in the run up to the election," Mr Blair said.

The speech made no real recognition of the state of Britain – 35th in the world in education standards and down from 13 to 18 in the economic league. Yet the Government had benefited by £120hn from North Sea oil and £80bn from about the Conservatives, they may he cruel but they're competent. This is an economic record of shame. They are cruel and incompetent in equal measure.

Turning to the Asylum and Immigration Bill, Mr Blair said Labour opposed bogus applications and fraud and recognised the need for immigration controls. But to Tory protests he said race and immigration should not be "the plaything of party politics". He called for the Bill to go before a Commons special committee "and let it be genuine consensual exercise

in getting at the truth".

But the Prime Minister said he did not immediately find himself attracted to the idea of a soecial committee - which would be able to hear witnesses and take evidence.

The only party playing the race card was Labour, he insisted. "Britain has always opened its doors to those who are in genuine need of asylum hut our current system of asylum has been abused." This year 40,000 claims for

asylum would be made, he said. "Only a small number are likely to succeed and they deserve to be decided speedily. Mr Major promised free

votes on matters of conscience in the Bill on divorce and domestic violence and announced that he would be asking the European Union to help Caribbean states stem the llow of drugs from Latin America.

In repeated personal attacks, he mocked Mr Blair's use of "cheap soundbites" yet went on to hammer away with the Tories own favourite soundhite of Labour as "unfit to govern".

The Labour leader's speech was "humbug at its very worst", Mr Major said. "It was what we have come to expect from him - cheap soundbites and no indication of his real policy sub-stance, if he has any at all." He said the Budget would

show the Government's determination to turn Britain into the "enterprise centre of Europe". It would be consistent with sound public finance and a resolve to move further towards privatisation. "People often say a more enterprising economy.

"We have hrought public spending under control. We will reduce it further," he said. "And when prudent, we will cut taxes on companies and on individuals"

Labour would increase spending, put up taxes, let inflation rip and discourage investment with more red tape. Mr Major said. "Policies like these do not add up to a credible programme of opposition, let alone of government. They add to the reason why Labour are unfit to govern."
John Redwood, the unsuc-

cessful Tory leadership challenger, reiterated his call for £5bn tax cuts and criticised the Government on law and order. Too many criminals are getting away without being detected. too many criminals seem to be able to get through a trial when the evidence looks quite strong against them," he said.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, had to look at the balance again. "People are worried about the security of their jobs, and their homes and their families and it is those issues which this Queen's Speech followed by the Budget must tackle and must be seen to be tackling in a way which meets the mood of



Mackay links divorce and home violence

STEPHEN WARD Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Mackay of Clashfero, the Lord Chancellor, will today reintroduce a version of the Family Homes and Domestic Vio-lence legislation ambushed by Tory backbenchers, tacked on to the divorce reform proposals and given a gloss of "family values". As revealed in the *Indepen*-

dent last week, the two pieces of legislation have both survived as the "Family Law Bill", a ti-tle designed to give the impression it supports rather than erodes the institution of marriage. The Lord Chancellor hopes they will pass on a free vote to come into force by July. Both parts of the legislation

hear the scars of the conflicts with the family values wing of the party which threatened their chances of becoming law. The divorce reforms, which

abolish the concept of fault and seek to encourage mediation rather than adversarial litigation, show how Lord Mackay has made accommodations to gain the support of solicitors whu had feared a loss of husiness to the mediators. The Bill makes it clear that

mediation is only for those divorces where both partners choose it, and that legal aid for lawyers advice and representation will still be available. A compulsory information

session stressing the benefits of mediation or marriage guidance may now be replaced by a much looser interview or video presentation sent to the home. But legal aid will be extended to pay for mediation as well as lawyers, and courts and solicitors will be encouraged to

refer couples to mediation.

The ambushed homes and violence legislation was supposed to have been a series of unifying measures which tidied up existing case law and ironed out anomalies over the rights of partners to live in homes when there is a dispute.

But backbenchers, who dubbed it the "live-in lovers Bill", were furious that it appeared to be giving new rights to cohahitees.

The Bill to be introduced today pays lip service to these worries. There will be a general clause requiring courts to "have regard to the fact that FAMILY LAW

people who are cohabiting have not made the same commitment as people who are married".

The Married Women's Prop-

erty Act of 1882 will not be extended to cohabitees; cohahitees will have slightly less right to have a viulent partner evicted from the family home than if the couple were married; and where a violent partner has heen excluded frum the home, the exclusion can only last up to a year under the new Bill, while under existing law and the old proposals the exclusion could be regularly renewed. The time timitation only applies to cohahitees, not to married couples, and is expected to affect only a handful of cases a year.

Tory backbenchers had wanted to amend the Bill so that partners could only be excluded if they caused "physical" harm, but the Bill retains 'mental harm" as well.

The divorce reform will be the first hig shake-up of the law for 25 years, and the first this century to be introduced by a government rather than as a private members' Bill. It had provoked widespread concern within the Tory party that the Government appeared to he undermining the institution of marriage by abolishing the concept of fault as the grounds for a divorce.

Faced with the row, some senior Conservative figures feared it was too controversial to be introduced in a legislative programme in the run-up to a general election. They argued ultimately unsuccessfully that it appeared to make divorce easier, and undermined the Tories' reputation as the party of the family.

The willingness of the Lord Chancellor to demonstrate flexibility over the involvement of solicitors has already won their public backing for the Bill. Yesterday, Hilary Siddle.

chairwoman of the Law Society's family law committee. said: "I hope that improvements to the detail of the Government's proposals will be possible through constructive dialogue between the Government and family tawyers, who understand how the current system works and what improvements are necessary."

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TV market to be opened up ahead of 'digital revolution'

MATTHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

The Government yesterday confirmed it would introduce a radical new Broadcasting Bill to extend choice and competition in the UK media industry. The effect will be to relax

rules governing cross-ownership among newspaper, television and radio companies and to pave the way for the introduction of digital terrestrial television within two years. The Bill, based in part on two

White Papers published earlier this year, will be tabled at the end of the month.

A last-ditch lobbying campaign is expected from media companies aimed at overturning some key proposals in the

Government's original plans. The White Paper on Media Ownership, published in May, proposed new rules that would allow greater cross-holdings among newspapers, television and radio companies. It would free newspaper groups, with the exception of the two higgest, Rupert Murdoch's News In-

MEDIA OWNERSHIP ternational and the Mirror Group, to control broadcasters

for the first time. The White Paper on Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting, released in August, proposed complicated rules for the introduction of new digital TV services, bringing as many as 20 new "over-the-air" channels to UK homes, hut only if televisions are fitted with special

decoders. Existing terrestrial broadcasters - the BBC, ITV, and Channel 4, along with the planned Channel 5 - would be guaranteed a place in the digital future.

Digital plans have already been criticised by many commercial media companies and by the BBC, which have argued in submissions to Mrs Bottomley that her proposals are

unworkable. Specifically, they believe the Government's preference to award licences for "multiplexes" of up to three digital channels to commercial middlemen ical of the limits placed on

disadvantage.

They also call on the Gov-

ernment to set a firm schedule for the transition from traditional analog television to digital, claiming that the investment necessary to launch the new services will only be forthcoming if the timetable is known in advance.

For its part, the BBC has also asked that a multiplex be set aside solely for the use of the public service broadcaster.

Views on the Government's plans to reform cross-media ownership rules received a mixed response when they were unveiled last May.

Companies such as Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail and the Evening Standard, welcomed the Government's decision to allow newspaper groups to control television broadcasters. subject to a ceiling of 15 per cent of the total lelevision market. But both Mr Murdoch's News International and the

would put broadcasters at a companies which already control at least 20 per cent of the

Several ITV companies, including MAL, the conglomerate which controls Anglia Television and Meridian, also complained about the Government's refusal to lift the limit of two ITV licences that can be held by a single company.

national newspaper market.

The City still expects the limits to be lifted, perhaps by the time the draft legislation is tabled, in two weeks' lime. The shares of some ITV

companies have risen sharply on expectations that large commercial broadcasters will be able 10 own more than two licences. Small media companies are concerned that they will be

swamped by broadcasting giants

when digital TV arrives. A spokesman for the Department of National Heritage said yesterday that the Gov-ernment had reflected on the advice provided by the industry. hut gave no indication as to whether the proposals would be

Defence will have to disclose case

STEPHEN WARD

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is to go ahead with changes to the rules on disclosure of evidence to prevent what the police see as unfair defence "ambushes" of the prosecution in court.

Full house: The Queen delivering her Speech in the Lords Photograph: John Stitlwell/PA

They will make the defence disclose more of its case earlier and allow the prosecution to hold back more of its evidence until later. Solicitors and harristers fear the changes may lead to miscarriages of justice unless stringen) safeguards are included. The details will not be

revealed until later this week. The proposals, which were instigated after police pressure on Mr Howard, are intended to make it harder for defendants to introduce plausible hut false defences at the last minute.

They also protect from disclosure to defendants sensitive information such as the names of informants and details of intelligence operations. Seniur police officers have complained that they have had to ahandon cases in order tu protect informants.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Under the new Criminal Procedure and Investigations Bill there will be three stages to the disclosure procedure: the prosecution would first release unused material which might undermine its case; in response, the defence would, for the first time, have to disclose information about its case to narrow the issues in dispute.

Finally, the prosecution would give any additional unused material which might assist the defence case.

Under the present law, the prosecution is obliged to disclose almost all its unused material to the defence.

The Bill will also introduce a Code of Practice for the police which will cover what materials they would be obliged to preserve and to make available to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Another section of the Bill will provide judges with powers to order a preparatory hearing in a long and complex case if it was thought there would be significant benefits.

The other Bills

NHS ombudsman's powers increased

The Health Service Ombudsman is 10 be allowed to investigate clinical complaints against doctors and nurses in the most significant change to his powers since the office was created 23 years ago. His jurisdiction is also to be extended from hospitals to cover more than 50,000 GPs, dentists, pharmacists and those who provide NHS optical services. The change is the culmination of a 20-year campaign to broaden the ombudsman's powers beyond just investigating "maladministration" by hospitals and health authorities. It follows mounting criticism of the way the NHS has handled clinical complaints against doctors but coincides with a change of attitude by the British Medical Association.

Army reservists to get enhanced role

The Reserve Forces Bill changes archaic laws about using Britain's 255,000 reserves to support the increasing number of military operations which Britain is carrying out in peacetime. The Bill will mainly affect the Army's 195,000 ex-regulars and 60,000 Territorial Army members. It will bring in a new power to call up reserves for humanitarian aid, disaster relief and peace-keeping operations, like those in Bosnia and last year's operation in Rwanda, and new measures to safeguard reservists' civilian jobs if they are called up.

Fast-track for less serious libel cases

A Defamation Bill which would introduce new summary procedures to enable judges to deal quickly with straightforward and less serious libel actions. The Bill would offer new defences to defendants who were willing to offer an apology or compensation including damages assessed by a judge – to the plaintiff.

Chemical weapons production outlawed

The Chemical Weapons Bill is Britain's "instrument of ratification" to fulfil its obligations under the October 1993 international Chemical Weapons Treaty, which has been signed by 159 countries. The treaty will come into force six months after 65 states have ratified it. The Bill will make it an offence to develop, produce, process or transfer chemical weapons - poison gases and droplets - or build any facility to do so. It will also be an offence to help anyone else make such weapons.

Conservation action plan 'will lead the world'

NICHOLAS SCHOON

Britain will next mouth launch an action plan for saving its own threatened species and habitats. Drawn up by government and voluntary conservation groups, the draft strategy will be presented as a model for the rest of the world.

There will be individual plans for safeguarding 114 plant and animal species and 14 different types of habitat, all declining or at dangerously low levels.

For each species and habitat the plan will set out its present status, how it can be maintained or increased and what it will cost. Funding the total programme would require at least £100m a year hut some of this money is already being spent. and about half of its comes from

voluntary conservation groups. Graham Wynne, director of conservation at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said; "It's a draft strategy which John Gummer (the Secretary of State of the Environment] deserves credit for supporting. Now we'll have to see if the en-

tire Government can deliver." The action plans cover popular threatened species found across continents, like the

European ottet, but there are several obscure ones unique to Britain. On the islet of Lundy. in the Bristol Channel, is a species of wild cabbage which only grows there. On it lives a beetle species which is in turn unique to that cabbage.

Including both makes the point that humanity should at least try to avoid wiping out any species through its own population growth and economic development, rather than devoting all efforts to charismatic species like the tiger. The UK list includes 10

mammal species, nine birds, three reptiles and amphibians, four fish, 30 insects, 15 other invertehrates, 20 flowering plants and 25 lower plants including ferns and mosses. Many are unique to Britain.

Among the hirds is the skylark, which still numbers hundreds of thousands but has undergone a precipitous decline due to the spread of modern farming methods.

The shorter habitats list includes the Caledonian pine woods of Scotland, lowland heaths of the kind which once covered much of southern England, and fens. There is a target to increase heathland area by 23 square miles.

Drawing up the strategy has taken nearly two years, and in-volved the RSPB, the network of county wildlife trusts and the World Wide Fund for Nature. Also taking part are small vol-untary groups like Plantlife and Butterfly Conservation.

The UK is one of more than

100 nations which have ratified the UN Biodiversity treaty, signed at the Earth Summit in Brazil three years ago. The strategy is Britain's way of im-plementing the treaty. It's im-portant that rich countries should give a lead to the developing nations on conserva-tion," Mr Wynne said. "If the Government acts on this the UK will be giving very positive signals for others to follow."

Most developing countries have much greater hiodiversity - variety and numbers of cies - but face greater problems in conserving it. A com-hination of poverty and rapid population growth mean natural habitats are rapidly being de-stroyed along with tens of thousands of species.

The only way of saving them to protect large areas of habitat and it is now recognised people living around them must be given an incentive to join the protection effort.

Wren masterpiece: Plan to merge 17th-century complex with nearby campus



Grand design: John McWilliam (left), Greenwich University deputy vice-chancellor, with the vice-chancellor, David Fustey, in the Great Painted Hall at Greenwich Naval College after disclosing their bid yesterday. The other seven bidders remained enonymous Photograph: Edward Webb

University reveals bid for naval college

IAN MACKINNON

As the deadline for opening hids for the Royal Naval College in Greenwich passed at noon yes-terday, one of the key con-tenders revealed details of its

Civil servants from the Ministry of Defence, which will play a leading role in sifting the proposals, disclosed that it had received eight sealed expressions of interest but declined to name the bidders.

However, minutes after the deadline passed the University the National Maritime Museum, outlined its plan which focused on the increased public access to Wren's architectural

masterpiece on the Thames. Equally, the university stressed that an integral part of its scheme involved establishing a committee, on which it would have minimal representation, to set guidelines for maintenance to ensure the buildings' upkeep.

But once those elements designed to reassure the Government and the public are stripped away, Greenwich wants to amalgamate the college with some of its other sites to cater

for about 2,000 students.

John McWilliam, the university's deputy vice chancellor, said that in using the buildings as an educational establishment it would be in keeping with the naval college's past.

Greenwich's plan would also

result in few of the 300-year-old buildings being changed from their present use as offices. dential accommodation for stu-

Of greatest concern in the wake of the announcement of the sale of the 150-year lease was the fate of the chapel and Great Painted Hall.

The university wishes that the chapel should be used by the students and local people as a place of worship and for musical performances, while the

hall would primarily be used for civic functions by the Borough of Greenwich, though the public would bave access to both.

The university would slowly assume responsibility for 75 per cent of the £2m annual upkeep budger, the balance paid by the Government.

In an effort to enhance the ppeal of the buildings, and aid World Heritage Site application, the university will reduce the current 200 parking spaces

within the complex. The other bidders, which have chosen not to reveal their identities, will also have adapted their offers to show that their plans a "sympathetic to the character of the site".

The MoD, in consultation with the National Heritage department, English Heritage and another of other bodies, will assess the suitability of each offer and ask for more detailed plans and presentations with a final decision not expected until the middle of next year.

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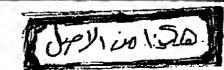
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Police sting led to return of stolen masterpiece

REBECCA FOWLER

The trial into the theft of the The Scream, Edvard Munch's £35m masterpiece, switched from Oslo in Norway, to London this week to discover how Scotland Yard won back the painting for the Norwegians after it was stolen in one of the most dramatic art thefts in recent decades.

British police revealed yes-terday they how they launched an undercover operation to recover The Scream in a carefully planned sting at a Norwegian hotel, after a tip-off from a British solicitor who had been contacted by one of the thieves.

The operation was carried out by two undercover officers known as Sidney Walker and Chuck Roberts, who posed as art experts representing the J Paul Getty Museum to set up a bogus £315,000 deal.

They gave statements during a two-day hearing at Bow Street magistrates' court in central London to protect their identities because under Norwegian law witnesses cannot give evidence anonymously.

John Butler, former head of Scotland Yard's Fine Art Squad, masterminded the operation with Norwegian police. after a secret meeting in Copen-hagen, Denmark,in March These two officers are the

most experienced undercover officers in the United Kingdom, and they had done dozens of op-erations throughout the world," Mr Butler said yesterday. We had to have a very flu-

id plan ... The trick is to protect undercover officers, don't lose the money, and try to achieve your objective."
The Scream, Norway's most

treasured painting, was stoleo from the National Gallery in Oslo in February 1994. Two men used a step ladder

to climb ioto the gallery, grabbed the painting and then isappeared.

£690,000 ransom for the work, completed in 1893, which depicts a waif-like figure gasping with angst beneath a blood red sky, but the Norwegian government refused to agree to their demands.

When a British solicitor, codenamed the London Clue, contacted Mr Butler to say that one of the criminals involved in the theft had contacted him. Scotland Yard devised a

plan, working with Norwegian police, to recapture the paint-ing. Mr Butler worked with Inspector Lief Lire, head of Oslo's serious theft squad.

Last May, Mr Roberts travelled to Oslo, posing as a mu-

seum representative. In the Sky Bar bar of the Plaza hotel he met Jan Olsen, one of four men on trial for the theft, and Einar Ulving, a "facilitator" who is not facing charges. There the men discussed a deal.

However, the following day over hreakfast Mr Olsen demanded £300,000 for the painting, and a further £15,000 for expenses, and was shown the money, in cash, in a deposit box at the hotel by Mr Walker.

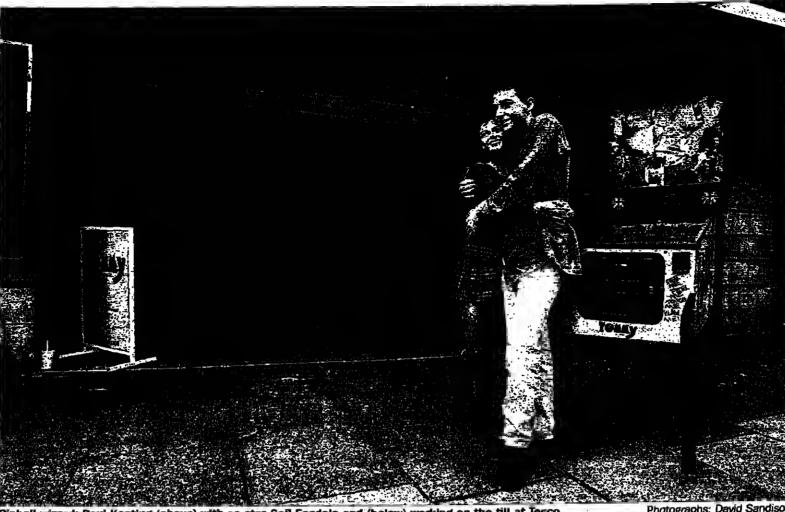
On 7 May, Mr Ulving drove Mr Roberts to his summer house in Aasgaardstrand, 55 miles south of Oslo, where the painting was hidden in the cellar. "It was wrapped in a blue bed sheet and we unwrapped it carefully," Mr Roberts said. "I saw The Scream as I have

seen it in reproductions, It could tell it was the original and not a copy. He took the painting back to

his hotel room, via the fire es-cape, while Mr Walker went with two of the alleged thieves to pick up the mooey.
But the thieves were arrested at the Grand Hotel in Oslo.

the meeting point where it was agreed that they would pick up the money, although Mr Walker said he was surprised only two officers had been sent for the hust. He commented that they sappeared. were carrying a hag which ap-the thieves demanded a peared to contain sandwiches.

A star is born: Unknown actor lands lead role in £3m production of 'Tommy'



Fame and fortune await teenager from Tesco

DAVID LISTER Arts Correspondent

A £50-a-week part-time worker at Tesco has landed the part of Tommy in the forthcoming west end musical of The Who's rock opera.

Nineteen-year-old Paul Keating, from Romford in Essex, will increase his salary 20 times over when he plays the deaf, dumh and hlind pinball wizard in the £3m production at the Shaftesbury Theatre next

He beat a staggering 7,000 other hopefuls, including seven pop stars with chart hits, and had to sing in 12 auditions.

Paul, who was back in the stock control room at Tesco yes-terday, working out his notice years, has played small parts at hefore starting rehearsals, has

the dubious advantage of resembling Tommy's composer, The Who's Pete Townshend. The show's producer, André Ptaszynski, said: "There is a

passing resemblance to the composer of the piece. Paul has that patrician profile." He added: "We would have been very happy to have a hig name in the part, and we had a

number of pop singers, five British and two Australian, but I cannot name them. A couple of them were well over oft, which is too tall. Tommy needs to suggest something frail. Paul is also a really strong rock tenor with great range and power."

The new star, who sang in his local church choir and has been working at Tesco for the last two reads The Stage, which is where he saw the advert for the audi-

Paul said yesterday he had never beeo a fan of The Who. and had never heard Tommy until he applied for the audition. He was more of a Madonna and

He added: "I can't wait to get started. I don't really play pinball so I will have to start practising. And Tesco have said I can have my job hack if it all fails." Pete Townshend promised to

initiate his new star. He said: "In true leftie-luvvie tradition I'm going to nurture his talent with long sessions of Shepherd's Bush deep background in which Paul will eat jellied eels, learn to ride a Vespa, discover his in-ner child and prepare himself to selflessly pay huge tax bills."

'Secret' pro-hunt group to go public

NICHOLAS SCHOON

A new and powerful pressure group for blood sports and countryside interests will be launched today, after months of secret preparation.

Those involved in founding the Countryside Movement are dominated by the great, the good – and the wealthy. Several of their meetings have taken place at the London offices of the Prince of Wales' Duchy of Cornwall under the chairman-ship of Lord Peel, a leading Duchy office-holder.

One of the prime motivations of supporters is to make it as difficult as possible for a Labour government to han hunting, using expensive advertising campaigns and mailing mil-lions of potential supporters. Tony Blair has promised a free vote on the issue and the great majority of his MPs will be in avour of a ban.

At today's London launch, they will emphasise that their new organisatioo is much broader than merely a prohunting, shooting and fishing lobby. The main aim is to fight for rural traditions and the rural economy, and for greater un-derstanding of the countryside among an overwhelmingly metropolitan population.

The Independent has received leaked minutes of two confidential meetings which have taken place this year.

Among those present have been former Daily Telegraph and now Evening Standard edtor Max Hastings, the Duke of Westminster - one of the wealthiest men in Britain - and the president of the National Farmers' Union, Sir David

Lord Peel, the initial chairman at early meetings, is a de-scendent of Britaio's most famous huntsman. The execuive chairman is Sir David Steel, the former Liberal Party leader who is standing down from the House of Commons at the next election. He has already rented an London office.

The Countryside Movement already has over £200,000 from founder members and hopes it could bring in up to £5m a year, most of which will be spent on campaigning and advertising.

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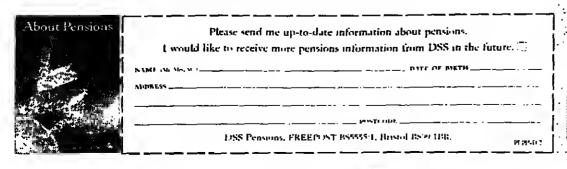
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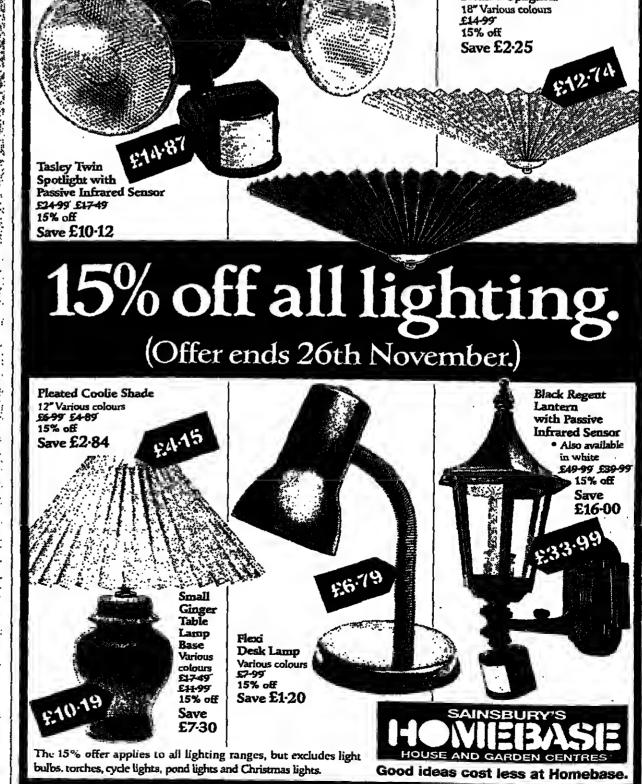
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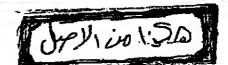
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Guilty verdict 'would make West a victim'

Convicting Rosemary West of murder would add yet another name to the list of her husband Frederick's victims, the jury at Winchester Crown Court was

list of Fred West's victims."

Mrs West, 41, denies murdering 10 girls and young women whose remains were found at the Wests' house, 25

that the prosecution had to prove beyond all reasonable doubt that Mrs West was guilty of the murders.

that does not make her guilty of the crimes with which she has West was a liar, that he was a been charged.

When it comes to proof of the actual crimes charged against this woman, they have not got the evidence. Speculation yes, opportunity perhaps,

"There is not a shred of direct reliable evidence to show that this defendant was a par-

"This is not like the trial of OJ Simpson in America. There are no bloody footprints here, there are no gloves, there is no DNA evidence. You are not being asked by us to acquit in the teeth of the evidence. You are being asked by us to acquit because there is no evidence. All you have is conjecture, suspicion and perhaps prejudice."

Mr Ferguson said that although the jury might regard Mr West as "the very epitome of evil", if jurors believed that what he said in police interviews might have been true then they

"We accept that the record-

eight and under category were

Rachel Jones from Weymouth, Dorset: Edward Goodacre, of

Ripon. North Yorkshire: and

Reflected glory: A Regency gitwood convex mirror catches the hanging of an antique mirror at the week-long Fine Art and Antiques Fair at Olympia in London which began yesterday. Among other pieces is an 1819 silver gilt soup tureen valued at £1m Photograph: Peter Macdiamid

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depraved and morally bankrupt

human being, if you can honour him with the title of human be-

ing, but what he said in those

interviews has the kernel of

"Once you accept that Fred West or Fred West and some-

body other than Rosemary West

could have killed without her

knowledge, then that is the end of the Crown case. That is an

end to the prosecution. Fred West was an evil, corrupt ma-

niac who was able to follow his career of aggression without any assistance from this defendant.

"The real issue is not whether

Mrs Rosemary West had an

unconventional sex life, but

whether or not the Crown has proved her guilty of murder."
The trial continues today

when the judge, Mr Justice Mantell, will begin his summing

truth," he said.

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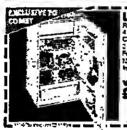






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WILL BENNETT told yesterday.

Not a shred of evidence had been produced to link her with any of the 10 murders with which she is charged and to which Mr West confessed before his death, Richard Ferguson QC, for the defence, said.
"On the one hand, you have

the siren voices urging you to convict because Rosemary West is an evil woman, on the other hand, you have your consciences and your oath." Mr Ferguson told the jury in his final speech. "The last thing you would want to live with would be the realisation that you have added yet another victim to the

Cromwell Street, Gloucester, and at their previous home in the city. Mr West, who was charged with 12 murders, was found hanged in his prison cell on New Year's Day. Mr Ferguson told the jury

He continued: "You may have come to the conclusion that as a mother and a woman her conduct fell far below that which you might expect ... but was not a party to these

Poet Roger McGough was

among the judges who yester-day selected 10 poems from

hut proof, no. and you cannot convict without proof.

ty to their deaths.

There is no fingerprint evidence to associate this defendant with their deaths. there is no forensic evidence to associate this defendant with these deaths, there is no eye-witness, there is no confession.

must return a not guilty verdict.

ings you heard were not the comprehensive truth. Nevertheless the broad thrust of what he told the police in those early interviews was, we say,

Young poets put trust in future **JOJO MOYES** The three joint winners in the

almost 14,000 entries in the James Winterbourne, from National Trust's "Saving Places" Maples, in Cheshire. poetry competition. Winner of the nine-13 cate-Young people under 16 were invited to write about what gory was Katie-Ellen McCrory from Salisbury, with a poem they would like to see saved for the benefit of people now and

called Fieldwalking, published below. She was followed by in the future as part of the trust's centenary celebrations. Melissa Dawes, from Ripon, and Robert Goss from Suffolk. Sally Bacon, one of the com-The joint winners of the 13petition's organisers, said that the judges had been stunned by 15 category were Keren White, of Ashford, Kent; Sophie Mills, the quality of the entries. "We

of Putney, south London: and were delighted with the stan-Ciara McKeown, of Clydebank. dard. Most of the judges, many The Welsh winner was Llyweof whom regularly judge poellyn Ifans, from Blaenpennal. ry competitions, were amazed Prizes of National Trust gift vouchers were awarded to the

by the fact that they were written by people under the age of winners by the actor Tony Robinson at a ceremony yesterday at Eureka! The Museum for Children, in Halifax. An anthology of the win-ning poems will be published in

16," she said. Conserving plant or animal life was the most popular subject, attracting a quarter of all entries, closely followed by global issues and pollution.

March next year. DAILY POEM

(the recently discovered site of a Roman villa in Tockenham village)

By Katie-Ellen McCrory

Fieldwalking

My eyes dance from edge 10 edge

The ploughed field, heaps of earth Mounds like hills, hide small clues,

My eyes glance from edge to edge Sweeping

I walk post the ghost of the Roman villa Where shadows mark the vanished walls My hands sweaty and stained with dirt I pick at grey, blue and terracotta Sinff my pockets with history's broken pieces.

Sifting through, I catch a signal As the sun flashes like an S.O.S. From a hand held mirror. MAYDAY! A fallen plane, a sinking ship The last survivor clinging to the wreck, A bright thing digs its way out From beneath the collapse of centuries.

I turn it to the light A stone cat's claw sits in my palm. A flint scraper Sharp edged to scour fat from skins Which hung in caves, long before the Romans arrived To hulld their roads.

This flint confronts me. Prehistory sits in my paint This, the oldest tool working before the Romans It cuts this paper, these words.

Katie-Ellen McCrory, from Salisbury in Wiltshire, won the 9 to 13-year-old age group in the National Trust's "Saving Places" poetry competition.

Dorrell poised to unveil 'private' NHS hospitals

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

The first schemes in which the private sector will design, huild, finance and operate entire bos-pitals for the NHS are to be announced shortly – probably in the Budget – despite a renewed Labour charge that the Government is progressively privatising the NHS.

But in a keynote speech, in which he is expected to underline that private finance is to be the dominant way that new NHS facilities are built. Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, is expected to set limits to the exercise.

In bis address to the Royal College of Physicians next week, Mr Dorrell will say that core clinical services - hroadly those provided by doctors and nurses - will not be included in the new schemes.

Some clinical support services which involve doctors - pathology and radiology - will form part of the early private finance deals in the NHS, which include a £100m 700-bed redefor sterile supplies, six for limb

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acute hospital at Bishop Auck-land in County Durham, and a £16m redevelopment at two sites in south Buckinghamshire.

But with few private bidders showing any interest in supply-ing full clinical services, Mr Dorrell is to make a virtue of reality and rule out complete private provision of an NHS bospital for the time being.

Labour charges that "core" bospital services are being pri-vatised, with Alan Milburn, Labour's new spokesman, yesterday listing 34 contracts under which services have been taken away from NHS provision and hand-

ed over to private companies. The deals include pathology at the Leicestershire Mental Health Trust, some forms of radiology at Oldham and Park hospitals and opthalmolngy in south Devon. The private sector has also won six contracts

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velopment of the Norfolk and Norwich hospital, a £20m 150-bed unit al St James's hospital, Leeds, a £26m scheme for a new fitting four for occupational health and six for patient appliances. A big new deal in-volving private provision of volving private provision of pathology for hospitals in north London is also thought to be

mear completion.
"Bit by bit, the health service is being handed over to the private sector," Mr Milburn said. Yesterday it was portering, today it is pathology and to-morrow it will be paediatrics." The limit Mr Dorrell will set

will still leave the private sec-His aim is to defuse renewed tor providing, financing and running entire buildings everything except mainstream treatment - providing all the back-up services from laundry and cleaning to building main-tenance and security, together with a range of other functions. Kingsley Manning, managing director of Newchurch, which

runs a private finance database for the NHS Executive, said an "explosion" of private building was about to occur, with the likelihood that £2hn worth of schemes would be in the pipeline by the time of the next

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Tradition under threat: Fishermen claim licence charges will hurt livelihood



Fish run: Den Chadwick, an Exe netsman, prepares his equipment as his family has done for centuries

Salmon families get sinking feeling

MICHAEL PRESTAGE

The 18 families which carry on the traditional pursuit of netting salmon on the river Exe in Devon claim they will be forced out by a huge hike in fees proposed the National Rivers

Topsham, a village that centuries ago was a major port and fishing centre but is now a commnter suburb of Exeter. The salmon fishing is regarded as one of the few remaining links with the village's historical past. Many of the families have fished for generations. Now. though, the NRA proposes to increase the licence fee from

£120 a year to £1,619 in a move to regulate charges nationally. The increases will be phased in, but the fishermen say the living lies and has been so for bun-The increases will be phased in, but the fishermen say the living to be made is already precarious and the new fee will make it uneconomic.

Den Chadwick, secretary of

River Exe Netsmen, said not all rivers were as lucrative as oth-The salmon are netted near ers and the NRA policy to have national charges was flawed. The NRA claims large increases are needed because the Government has nearly halved its national fisheries grant in the last four years and wants the costs of the service to be refrom those who benefit.

covered as fully as possible

dreds of years. This is part of our heritage and if these charges go through, that history will be

wiped out."
He remembers 1987 as a good year with 4,000 fish caught, but last year, few boats averaged more than 100 fish. With the possible income so variable he believes few will commit themselves to the cost of a new licence.

Also, salmon farming has meant that prices for salmon have not risen in the last 10 hut in the long term I fear the end is near."

There are already tight rules governing the fishing and a suspicion among the netsmen that many with vested interests would prefer to see them off the river and their places taken by more lucrative "rod and line" fishermen who pay well and catch little - a charge the NRA

The season runs from February to August and fishing can only take place on weekom those who benefit. years. "I have been fishing here days. One fisherman stands on will join forces to try and over-Mr Chadwick said: "Our fish- for 45 years. There used to be shore with a rope, while a boat turn the NRA proposals.

rows out trailing a net. When the boat lands this forms a half circle, which is dragged in. Hopefully the salmon are

trapped in the net. The River Exe Netsmen say they believe the spawning beds of the salmon 40 miles up river on Exmoor would suffer if the netting stopped, because too many salmon would be trying to hreed. They claim the netting is a valuable culling that safeguards future fish stocks. The fishermen also have a role in discouraging poachers.

They have been in touch with counterparts in Cornwall and hope other similar bodies

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Care to be improved for victims of crime

GLENDA COOPER

New guidelines for treating the victims of crime will he issued to doctors and nurses after some complained they were treated unsympathetically. Home Office research has

shown that less than 50 per cent of violent crime is reported to the police and for many victims their only contact with the authorities is when they receive treatment for their injuries. Victims have complained that they were treated in an insensitive or judgmental way, adding to their distress.

The booklet gives a checklist for doctors, including documenting injuries, looking for signs of sexual assault and safeguarding clothing that may be cessary for forensic evidence.

It also lists possible signs of domestic violence, bow to make a written report, the effect of post-traumatic stress disorder and who is most likely to be at risk of different crime

At the launch of the booklet, Treating Victims of Crime, which will be issued free to all GPs and accident and emergency departments, the charity Victim Support yesterday ontlined some cases where the victims' ordeal had been exacerbated by the treatment they had received from medical staff.

A woman store detective who bad been stabbed by a thief who said the hypodermic needle was infected with Aids was then told by her doctor to "pull herself together" and given no information.

A young man seriously injured in an armed robbery was told by his GP that the consultant who had dealt with him had written on the discharge note that "the victim had provoked the attack by challenging the robber". The director of Victim Sup-

port, Helen Reeves, said: There are many victims who never tell anyone what has happened to them but they do seek medical help. It is essential that these people are treat-ed with sensitivity and understanding and that they are told what other sources of belp are available to them.

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Presidential poll in Algeria: Massive operation mounted to prevent Islamist suicide bombers wrecking today's election

Algiers smothered in blanket of security

ROBERT FISK

"If they're going to do some-thing, they'll do it today." Com-mandant Mohamed of Algeria's Gendarmerie Nationale said it without emotion, as if making a station announcement or forecasting uncertain weather.

The two policemen in the jeep with us checked their Kalashnikovs and stared through the windows. Algiers looked a pretty, deceptive city, all sunlight and pied noir apartments and balconies floating above the Mediterranean, the walls smeared with election posters to remind us of why the day before polling could be the day that the Armed Islamic Group "do something". We pulled to the side of the

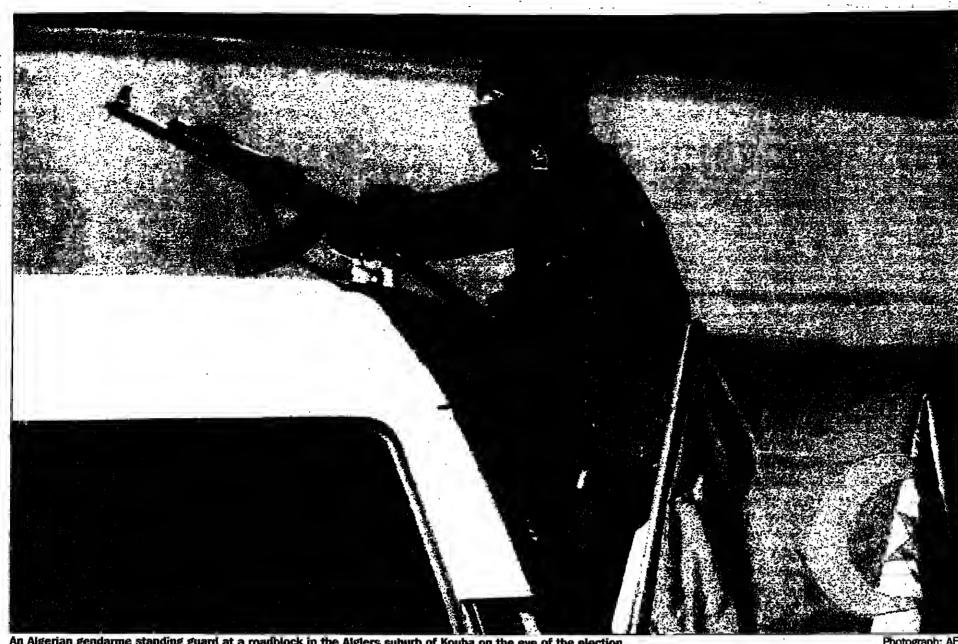
motorway near Harrache for a rontine shake-down. Young men driving cars and vans were ordered out by the roadside, hands above their heads, papers checked, vehicles prowled over by the gendarmerie. A phalanx of armoured jeeps pulled up behind, their green-uniformed occupants running up the motorway embankments, spilling over into the ground beyond.

By the time I reached them. two officers were looking suspiciously at an abandoned ground-floor apartment. Com-mandant Mohamed looked at two gas cylinders standing heside the entrance. "Who put them there?" he asked. "Could be for a bomh. Why would anyone leave valuable things like gas cylinders sitting outside an abandoned home? What are they going to be used for?"

A gendarme peered at the bottles and shrugged. A couple of gas cylinders outside a Harrache flat didn't make an insurrection on the day before Algeria's presidential election. It was almost noon, and the flood of supposed Islamist suicide bombers had very definitely not put in an appearance; in fact, it was security that was flooding Algiers — police and paramilitaries and soldiers and plainclothes men on every street corner, every highway intersection. Soaked in security

might be the right expression.

I think things are better than when you were last here people are tired of terrorism and they want to collaborate with the security forces more



An Algerian gendarme standing guard at a roadblock in the Algiers suburb of Kouba on the eve of the election

than they did," Commandant Mohamed said. "The garde communale [volunteer militiamen] have been a great success. People are not afraid to show their feelings against the fundamentalists now. People feel more patriotic." There was no doubt whose side the good commandant was on. Policemen admire Liamine Zeroual, the president who is going to be re-

We cruised the streets for another half hour, past the near-

deserted French embassy and the equally abandoned home of Abassi Madani, leader of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front. Near Bir Mouradis we were waved down by some of Commandant Mohamed's colleagues. One was holding a dirty, slightly rusted pistol. "We found it in that car," he said, pointing down the motorway to where two men -- one in a business suit, the other in a black leather jacket - stood guiltily beside a hlack VW Golf. "He

of Justice, but he doesn't have a permit for the gun." The pis-tol was light-weight hnt old, a Chinese 9mm. The metal felt grainy, as if it had just been dug up in a garden — which is evi-dently what the police officer

suspected. Commandant Mohamed chatted to the better-dressed driver. He had an identification card showing he had permission to use the Club des Pins, the old nomenklatura watering hole

says he works for the Ministry outside Algiers; which clearly did not satisfy the comman-dant's definition of a "terrorist".

Exactly what did was more evident back in the Harrache barracks, where a chart of the gendarmerie's "anti-terrorist struggle" lists an impressive number of Armed Islamic Group (GIA) cells broken, its members killed or arrested, some of them - as the chart significantly recorded - bank ofdoctors

Between 24 April and last month, in the Harrache area alone, six "terrorists" were shown as dead, 30 arrested, including the local technocrat leader, Mounir Sellaoui.

Police archives record much group called al-Fidah, which coordinates the assassination of intellectuals, files showed that one group specialised in money and communications. Its members - a former tax

inspector (a certain Rashid

Medani), a bank teller who was playing the international exchanges, a shopkeeper rejoicing in the name of Dumdum Bouelem and an estate agent renting to other comrades sent faxes from an architect's more fascinating details. Of a home to Paris, Brussels and

One GIA fax to Britain this summer was addressed to an Algerian called Mohamed Denideni (occupation unthe transport of explosives, cash and men. Yes, the GIA are no longer stealing cars — they are buying them, fitting out mem-bers with the real identification papers of long-dead citizens; the GIA has made a habit of seeking information about women whose babies died at birth and adopting the identity of the dead children 21 years later, a kind of delayed rebirth for anyone seeking anonymity in the streets of Algiers.

Njudge akes aim jugoslav parlords

But just who owned the white Renault 19 we heard about off the motorway at Dely Ibrahim, we still don't know. Commandant Mohamed's

radio told the story succinctly. "It saw our checkpoint and turned round," the message said. "Why didn't you shoot at it?" "We did, but it got away." We raced down the ring-road. Algiers was being scaled off from the countryside, the police forming a cordon sanitaire for election day. The Renault had tried to break into the city. We reached the junction not that far the commandant and I were amhushed by the GIA last March and there was the gen-darme who had fired a machinegun at the car.
"He went down there," he

said, and pointed to a winding hill road. We chased after it, avoiding the man-hole covers people put bombs under them - and breaking whenever we saw hine-uniformed city police patrols or soldiers. "Did you see a Renault 19 going through here at speed?" Commandant Mohamed would ask. And they all said they hadn't. We crunched up side roads, looking for suspiciously parked white cars. Every street, every intersection seemed to be filled with white Renault 19s. And we were watched all the time by crowds of idle, interested young men.

Of course, we never found the car. It had made a getaway back into the country. Maybe he was a car bomh --- we don't know," Commandant Mohamed said. "They are the greatest danger now. They are the only danger, but we're suc-cessful so far." By late after-noon, a phone call reached his office from downtown. "Nothing at all." Commandant Mohamed beamed with delight. known), while others co-ordinated the purchase of cars for away, he added: "So far."

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UN judge takes aim at Yugoslav warlords

TONY BARBER Europe Editor

The United Nations war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslavia is expected to issue another indictment today, capping a week in which it has taken aim at some of the highest-ranking in their territories. But Croat-Serb and Croat commanders in the conflicts. Brushing aside Serb and Croat complaints that this may derail peace talks in Dayton, Ohio, the tribunal is giving notice that political considerations will not deflect it from the application of universal principles of justice.

moral, legal or political right to forgive people charged with genocide and crimes against humanity, the deaths of tens of thousands of people, without consulting the victims? I just find it abborrent," the chief UN prosecutor, Richard Goldstone, said on Tuesday in The Hague. where the tribunal is based.

The war crimes under investigation are the worst committed in Europe since 1945, and include the Serb killing of 260 Croats in Vukovar in 1991, the Serb slaughter of thousands of Muslims near Srebrenica last July, and Croat atrocities against Muslims in central Bosnia in 1993.

All those indicted so far are Serbs or Croats, although one Muslim commander from eastern Bosnia, Naser Oric, has been unofficially tipped as a possible suspect.

Officials at the tribunal have indicated they want the long run into even deeper trouble arm of international justice to extend as high as possible up the ladder of the Serbian leadership in Belgrade. In theory, this ment want removed from powcould mean naming President Slobodan Milosevic, an act that would severely test the world's determination to back the tribunal, as the Serbian leader's cooperation is deemed vital to securing a peace settlement in former Yugoslavia.

A list of the tribunal's sus-Bosnian Serb. Croatian Serb Milosevic had secured the two and Bosnian Croat leaderships men's agreement to make a of the last four years. Those charged include four Serbs who directed the war effort in Bosnia and Croatia - Radovan Karadzic, General Ratko Mladic, Milan Martic and General Mile Mrksic - as well as two Bosn-lan Croat leaders, Dario Kordic and General Tihomir Blaskic.

However, there is one problem. Out of 52 suspects, including 45 Serbs and seven Croats, the tribunal has custody of only one, a Bosnian Serb karate instructor, Dusan Tadic. whose trial is expected to start early next vear.

The tribunal, strongly sup-ported by the United States. says it expects the Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian governments to surrender all suspects ia's President, Franjo Tudjman, treated the tribunal to a gesture of contempt on Tuesday by giving General Blaskic a job in Croatia's army inspectorate only a day after be had been charged with war crimes against Muslims in central Bosnia.

The move was a slap in the "What politicians have the face to Bosnia's Muslim-led government and underlined the case with which the Croats switch between military, political and administrative positions in Croatia and the Croat-controlled Bosnia. The Muslims and Croats signed an agreement in Ohio earlier this month on strengthening co-operation in Bosnia, but the accord looks somewhat hollow in the light of the protection extended by Mr Tudjman to a leading warcrimes suspect.

> The US ambassador to Zagreb, Peter Galbraith, warned Croatia yesterday that the treatment of General Blaskic would be an important factor weighing on US relations with Croatia. "The only ap-pointment Mr Blaskic can legally have now is with the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague," the ambassador said.

> The Ohio negotiations could over the fate of Mr Karadzic and General Mladic, whom the US and the Bosnian governer and brought to trial as part of a peace deal. The official Bosnian Serb news service. quoting a source in the Bosnian Serb leadership, said this week that the two men would not withdraw from politics after peace was achieved.

The Belgrade magazine Nin pects reads like a roll-call of the reported last weekend that Mr "quiet departure" from public handed over to the UN tribunal But the US government has flatly rejected any such deal, say ing the indictments are no

and his staff would consider important suspected war criminals as Mr Karadzic and General Mladic escape trial.

Six leading war-crimes suspects from Bosnia and Croatia wanted by the UN tribunal



Radoven Karadzic Job: Bosnian Serb political

Present address: Somewhere in Bosnian Serb tem-Date of indictment: 25

July 1995 Charge: Genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Specifically, he is ac-cused of atroctiles perpetratcused of atrocuse personal ed against civilians throughout Bosnia, including the sniping cempant against resident of Sarajevo. He is also accused of taking UN peace-keepers hostage as human shields.



Job: Military commander of the Bosnian Serbs. Present address: Somewhere in Bosnian Serb terri-

Date of Indictment: 25 July 1995 Charge: Genocide, war crimes and crimes against hu-manity. Like Mr Karadzic, he is accused of crimes against Bosnian civilians and UN peace-keepers. Accusations

include the shelling of a busy

caté area in Tuzia last May and

seizure of 284 UN troops this



Job: Bosnian Croat military commander. He was appointed last Tuesday to the rank of inspector in Croatia's army. Present address: Normally in Bosnian Croat territory, he is now presumed to be head-

vember 1995. Charge: Crimes against humanity. Charges against him relate to the same crimes as those of which Mr Movdin is tion of Bosnian Muslims in cen-

Date of indictment: 13 No-



Job: Civilian political leader of the breakaway Croatian Serb mini-state.

Present address: Last heard of in Bosnian Serb city of Banja Luka. Date of indictment: 25 July

Charge: Crimes relate to the fining of cluster bombs into central Zagreb last May. The Croatian Serbs launched their rocket attacks on Zagreb. ing six people, as the Crostian army successfully recaptured the Serb-held enclave of western Slavonia.



Name: Dario Kordic Job: Deputy civilian political leader of self-proclaimed Bosnian Croat mini-state. Present address: Somewhere in Croat-held territory. Date of indictments 13 No-

vember 1995 Charge: Crimes against hu-manity related to the persecution of Bosnian Muslims on political, racial and religious grounds. The indictment accuses him of such large-scale destruction that almost the entire civilian Muslim population of the Lasva valley in central Bosnia was destroyed in 1993.



Name: Mile Mrksic Job: Serbian officer, later commander of Croatian Serb forces:

Present address: Last heard of in Serb-held Bosnia. Date of indictment: 9 November 1995

Charge: Crimes against humanity. Accused of involvement in the massacre of 261 Croats and non-Serbs after the capture of the Croat town of Vukovar in November 1991. The officers are said to have removed the men from the nospital, then taken them to a site near a farm for execution...

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EU integration: Proposals could prompt a showdown with Britain

Unity route charted by Paris and Bonn

Germany and France are preparing a four-point plan for the next round of European integration, including proposals for a single European foreign poli-cy and a call for more immigration and asylum powers to be handed over to Brussels.

It is an attempt to patch up the Paris-Bonn relationship, histor-ically the driving force for European integration. But wide areas of disagreement persist, giving room for Britain to exploit the differences.

The initiative is to be unveiled next month in an attempt to revive the debate over how the European Union should tackle the next phase of reform. Given the failure of other member-states to set a clear agenda, the Franco-German plan is likely to form a negotiating blueprint for next year's "Maastricht Two" intergovernmental conference on EU re-structuring. The plan, agreed in outline this week. could set France and Germany back on a collision course with

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wards integration was slowing

It can take some comfort from the fact that the initiative is not as federalist in its ambitions as Bonn would have liked. Germany is determined to ensure Europe moves towards greater political and monetary union on grounds that without a single political vision, Europe may not create sufficient stabil-

ity for a single currency to work. But French caution over certain German policy proposals forced Bonn to scale down its original demands. "It is a compromise. It goes further than the French would have wanted but not as far as we would have liked," said a German official.

The Franco-German proposals centre on foreign policy, immigration and border controls, institutional reform and EU democracy and openness. They will be finalised after the Franco-German summit on 7 De-

On foreign-policy integra-tion, the two countries want a

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retary-general for foreign poli-cy but Germany has not so far ed. The core of the agreed plan is for greater majority voting on foreign policy within the Council of Ministers. Under German proposals, majority vot-ing would be extended, starting with "the most important" areas of EU foreign policy. However, France continues to resist this idea and negotiations are still un-der way to find a compromise

Under the proposed new vot-ing system, a single country which objected to the majority decision would not be able to block it but would not have to take part in implementation of the decision under what is termed "constructive abstention". The financing of the policy agreed by the majority would,

formula.

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wever, come out of EU funds. Germany also wants to give more decision-making power to the European Commission in areas of immigration and asylum where they believe better co-ordination between member states

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wants the EU to appoint a sec- lum rights and be responsible for ensuring they were enforced. The European Court of Justice would rule on cases where EU law had not been properly applied. But again, France is more under discussion. In a compromise, Germany has apparently withdrawn its demands that Brussels also be given powers over some police and criminal-

> The two countries say EU enlargement must bring about more streamlined institutions. The plan calls for the number of commissioners to be cut, with appointment in future "on merit" rather than on the basis of national representation.

Democratic accountability
of EU decisions must be increased by giving the European parliament greater powers to oversee policy areas where natransferred authority to Brussels In other areas where power remains with member-states, na-tional parliaments should play a greater role in checking Euro-



Window shopping: Any crackdown on illegal foreign prostitutes, who make up most of Amsterdam's window trade, would not be welcomed by local businessmen

The red lights could be out all over Amsterdam

ABI DARUVALLA Amsterdam

If a strike of Amsterdam prostitutes goes ahead next month it won't be only the red light which will go out in the city's famous sex district.

The brothel operators behind the sex strike are angry over a council crackdown on illegal immigrants working as whores. Local businesses are also afraid such a move would spell the end of the allure of the area and have pledged support for the "lights out" protest.

The crackdown on illegal foreign prostitutes is part of the city's policy to regulate brothels in advance of new legislation to decriminalise the sex industry. As from 1 January, brothel operators in Amsterdam will have to apply for a "tolerance licence" allowing them to ply their trade, as long as certain health and safety regulations are

met.
While the brothel operators are not against this policy, they are furious about what they see as a totally impossible demand which calls on them to ensure that no illegal immigrants are employed as prostitutes.
"About 75 per cent of the city's 1,300 window prostitutes

are foreign girls who are in the Netherlands illegally," said a spokesman for SOR, representing the brothel operators. There has been a flood of prostitutes into Amsterdam

over the last few years, mainly from South America and, more recently, from eastern Europe. SOR says: "This has built up over the last decade and they can't expect us to throw these

women out onto the street just "The whole red light district would collapse - which is why other local businesses like local cafes are prepared to join our

protest action and turn off their But Amsterdam council is adamant that the brothel op-erators are responsible for stamping out illegal employees: "The fact that they don't know how to handle the problem is their problem, not ours. Ille-

gal is illegal and we can't make an exception for prostitutes," says a council spokesman. But he stressed that the authorities are not planning to

hunt out illegal immigrants working as prostitutes. The council is, however, determined to ensure all the conditions required for "tolerance permits"

SOR insists they do not want preferential treatment but a more realistic approach to the problem and time to "clean up our act".

They warn too that the council's tough stance will only succeed in forcing the illegal foreign prostitutes further into the back streets and criminal circles. What SOR would like to see is a temporary amnesty for these women allowing them to work for the industry for

Turning a blind eye to the city's flourishing sex industry is a long standing tradition in Amsterdam but the huge influx of illegal foreign women on the circuit has caused concern because of links with organised

Accepting the existence of the oldest profession in the world is one thing but giving hrotbels an official stamp of approval has been a difficult step - even for the progressive Dutch.

Par and A Juppé's attack on benefits delights the right

MARY DEJEVSKY

The French health and social se-curity system, one of the most curity system, one of the most generous and costly in Europe, is to undergo two years of sweeping change to end its in-debtedness, streamline its func-tioning and reduce inequities.

The measures, presented to parliament yesterday by the prime minister, Alain Juppe, were hailed as one of the most ambitious reforms of the system m its 50 years of existence. The financial markets were delighted with the tough social security measures. Shares and government bonds soared. thanks to hopes that a tighter fiscal policy would allow interest rate cuis. The franc rose to Fr3.45 to the German mark.

The proposed reforms, which were to be the subject of a vote of confidence yesterday, affect the whole administrative structure of the health and social security system, known as the Sécu, as well as the way the system works. No one in France will be untouched.

Some of the most immediate effects will be in the provision of health care, the sector running up the highest debts. As from next year, a ceiling is to be set on spending by hospitals and doctors, and the 19 different national health insurance schemes are to be streamlined. The homeless and jobless, who have risked falling out of the system, will receive automatic cover. But in a clear concession to the right, only foreigners legally resident in France will qualify.

A patient's right to choose from an almost infinite range of GPs will be limited; another outcome could be a reduction in the incomes of the highestearning doctors. Of more than 60 MPs who took part in the debate which preceded Mr Juppé's statement this week, more than 30 were from the medical profession. But it was noted that they were unusually reticent on

the question of earnings. The most universal of Mr Juppé's measures is a new tax, introduced for 13 years at a rate of 0.5 per cent on an individual's total income, which is earmarked for paying off the Sécu's debt. The debt, estimated at 230bn francs (£30bn) — a sumcontested by Mr Juppe's opponents — has been run up since 1991. From 1997 the Sécu is expected to pay for itself, but the structure will be overhanled.

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perce .

The present autonomy of the Secu, funded mostly by workers' and employers' contributions, and managed by a council made up of doctors, trade unions and employers, is to be ended. In future the system will be overseen by a national council answerable to parliament, which will set the budget. Among the losers from yesterday's proposals are public employees, people over 65 who need care to stay in their own homes and families, who will see their family benefits

frozen through 1996. Any reform of the Sécu was bound to be controversial, and fierce debates have raged inside and outside parliament, ever since Mr Juppé announced his intention of taking drastic action to bring the system back into financial balance.

In proposing a greater role for parliament, however - and in his bravura performance at the French equivalent of the dispatch box, where he turned in his best rhetorical performance since the Chirac election campaign – Mr Juppé successfully defused many of the objections the legislature had threatened. The main battle now will be with the trade unions and the public sector. That might have to be fought on the streets.



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War and terror make 27 million homeless

MICHAEL SHERIDAN Diplomatic Editor

A record total of 27 million people around the world have fled their homes because of war and persecution, the United Na-tions High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, said yesterday as she called for new political thinking to prevent conflicts and to deal with the changing character of war and displacement, as some states disintegrate and others pursue policies of ethnic chauvinism.

"We live in a sophisticated world but we are responding in a patchy and short-sighted way," said Mrs Ogata, intro-ducing a report by the UNHCR Among the facts and figures col-lected last year were:

Pakistan, Iran and Zaire are each hosting more than n million refugees and 28 na-tions are coping with more than 100,000 people. O The three countries with the

most refugees are Afghanistan, Rwanda and Liberia, with 2.74 million Afghans still living as refugees 16 years after the Soviet Union invaded, and 2.26 million Rwandans in exile. O Germany has taken in the greatest number (700,000) from

the former Yugoslavia granted "temporary protection" in other European countries, while only a fraction are in Britain. □ World-wide, there are more refugees in Africa, 6.75 million, than in any other continent.

The UNHCR's most impor-

Refugees: the crisis areas

ures but trends. The refugee agency, with a \$1.3bn budget, has had to alter definitions of those in need as it copes with

the the end of the Cold War. Traditionally, a refugee was somebody who crossed an international border and sought ylum in another state, such as Palestinians who fled to Jordan and Lebanon in 1948. But civil conflicts and the breakup of such states as Somalia and Yutant message is not one of fig-goslavia has created a new cat-

egory of victim, christened named "internally displaced persons", people trapped within their own borders but in need.

The repercussions of such catastrophes challenge the vintage Cold War doctrine that the outside world cannot intervene in the affairs of nation states. The UN Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, has admitted that "the time of absolute and exclusive sovereignty has passed". The breakdown

Security Council passed Reso-lution 688 in 1991, demanding that Iraq allow "immediate access" by international humanitarian organisations. But the members of the UN have not faced up to the difficult politi-

cal consequences of this action. Mrs Ogata cited the mass murders and ethnic conflict in Rwanda as a textbook case of

the need for prevention.
"What might have happened

refugee relief during the first two weeks of the emergency had

and promoting development in the period which preceded the exodus?" the report asked. The UNHCR wants to see fewer expensive "quick fix" solutions and a greater long-term commit-

ment to preventive diplomacy. There is growing resistance in many Third World countries to

been devoted to keeping the

peace, protecting human rights

any notion that the industrialised nations can determine a "right to intervene" based on principles which may not be uni-versally agreed. "The Western concept of human rights continues to be strongly challenged by both the Islamic states and many countries in east Asia, where primary emphasis is placed on social order, political stability and economic growth," the report noted.

One reason for political inaction is that several refugee crises are the results of policies followed by the rival blocs in the Cold War. "The world's more powerful states were able to take advantage of refugee movements by arming and training some of the people concerned and using them to destabilise the government within their homeland," the UNHCR said, pointing to Afghanistan, Angola and central America.

Then there are countries like Somalia, where the obscuce of superpower equilibrium created a vacuum swiftly filled by tribal or ethnic violence. In Yugoslavia, the UNHCR's most testing assignment, three million people have been displaced by ethnic cleansing and war.

"Similar forces are at work in the former Soviet Union, particularly the Caucasian republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, where the disappearance of the Communist state apparatus and the concomitant struggle for power and territory has uprooted more than two million people, the report said.



All gone: A young Hutu in Kibeho camp weeping as water and food are cut off Photograph: David Guttenfelder

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US pushes for a Pacific defence union

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Leaders of the main Pacific Rim economies begin meeting here today, a day after William Perry, the US Defense Secretary, suggested that the divided membership of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) forum consider forming à security alliance.

"It is possible to expand Apec into an organisation that can take up security problems," he said. This could act as a foundation for building mutual confidence in Asia." The suggestion provided an unexpected beginning to the gathering. The third full summit of Apec was always going to be lively. At the weekend, South Korea threatened to cancel President Kim Young Sam's summit with the Jupanese Prime Minister, Tomiichi Mnrayama, after one of Mr Murayama's ministers made off-the-record remarks justify-

mg the occupation of Korea.

The next day, in Seoul, China's President, Jiang Zemin, and Mr Kim denounced Japanese wartime cruelty. To add to Tokyo's problems, President Bill Clinton nearly cancelled due to the US budget crisis.

In the end, the Japanese minister resigned and Mr Clinton arranged to arrive in Osaka a day late and leave early. The show will go on; what it will achieve is another question.

Apec was inangurated in 1989 and annual meetings of ministers and heads of government culminated last year in the ambitious Bogor Declaration, which set out the aim of free trade in the Asia-Pacific area by 2010, or by 2020 for developing economies.

The Pacific Rim is the world's most powerful trading region. Apec's 18 members conduct 40 per cent of world trade; a report vesterday predicted that their collective economies could

grow by 20 per cent by the end of the century. But their economic policies are not co-ordinated. The Association of South-East Asian Nations groups seven economies: Japan and the United States have long-standing trade relationships. But there is nothing to compare with the European Union or the North American Free Trade Area.

Cynics say the Apernations are too diverse. In Europe, there is anxiety about the difference between Germany and Portugal. In Apec, it is intendtually flourish between the US and Papua New Guinea.

There are also diplomatic and military tensions: the resentment of Japan by its former Asian conquests; the trade disputes between Japan and the US; and the expansionist fears inspired by China. The Apec absurdity is epitomised by the presence in Osaka this week of Taiwan. To avoid upsetting China, it is referred to in official litcrature as "Chinese Taipei",

ever, have focused on another dispute, mundane, but more central to Apec's economic mison d'être. The aim of the 1995 meeting is the formulation of an "Action Agenda", to which member-states will contribute concessions and proposals in Manila next year. Japan, China, South Korea and Taiwan want an exemption in the case of agriculture. The big food exporters, the US, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, insist that to agree tariffs on everything but rice undermines the principles of the organisation.

The rift is an embarrassment for Japan, which wants a clear outcome to its first summit as Apec host. A compromise on. rice tariffs will be the main task of the next four days. Even if it is reached, Mr Perry's talk of "mutual confidence" will remain a long-term vision.

Diplomatic differences, how-

OJ's lawyer beats his rival again

RUPERT CORNWELL Washington

He beat her in court and now Johnnie Cochrar has bested Marcia Clark in the book deal sweepstakes. The fast-talking attorney who sentred the acquittal of OJ Simson has won a book contract for "slightly" more than the \$-2m (f2.8m) advance obtained by Ms Clark, the lead prosecution lawyer.

"Let's just say to won again," the Los Angeles times quoted a friend of Mr Jochran's remarking about the contract for his memoirs, to le published in 1997 and reportedly titled My Journey to Justic: The Autobiography of Johnsy Cochran Jr. The book willbe published by Ballantine's Or: World, a specialist in book about black

Americans. "I vant to remind

people that the attle for justice

is never ending and that one person can make a difference," the newspaper was told by Mr Cochran, who will be in Britain this weekend to address a conference of black lawyers.

The deal lifts the literary here from the trial to even more stratospheric levels, The Clark and Cochran deals are among the biggest advances ever paid for non-fiction, apart from Gen-eral Colin Powell's \$6.5m and General Norman Schwarzkopf's \$5m. Robert Shapiro and Christopher Darden, defence and prosecution attorneys also in the Simpson case have each received \$1.5m advances

for books of their own. The only person not to bea-efit thus far is Mr Simpson. His reported post-trial pickings are a mere \$500,000, from photo rights to his homecoming party after his acquittal.



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Shell to go ahead with Nigerian gas plant

NICHOLAS SCHOON

Shell and the Nigerian government yesterday decided to go ahead with a huge gas project in the troubled and environmentally damaged Niger delta.

The board of the joint venture company planning the £2.5 bn liquefied natural gas plant second largest shareholding after the Nigerian government,

to be signed with construction firms and gas purchasers by the

There had been pressure on the company to abandon or delay the project after the executinns of the Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other men from Ogoniland. Critics said approval would lend support in the military regime which hanged made the decisinn in Lagos yesterday. Shell, which has the them. But Dick van den Broek, a Shell International director, said last night: "Ynu have in be said it expected final contracts clear about whn would be hurt.

You don't necessarily affect the present Nigerian government because the revenues will not start flowing on this project un-

til early next century. John Major said on Sunday that the Government would be holding urgent talks with Shell to discuss the project, the largest single investment in sub-Saharan Africa.

A meeting took place be-tween senior Shell executives and Foreign Office officials on Monday, but both sides now say

"It's their money, and it's up to them and their European partners to explain their deci-sions to the public," said a Foreign Office spokesman.

Lord Melchett, chairman nf Greenpeace UK, said: "We think Shell should stop oil pro-duction in Nigeria altogether. Going ahead with this plant

there was no question of the Government putting any pressure on the multinational nil company to end its involvement of Friends of the Earth damaging flaring of and series of the Earth damaging flaring of and series of the Earth damaging flaring of and series of the Earth damaging flaring of the series of the Earth damaging flaring of the series of the Earth damaging flaring of the pursue of the series of the Earth damaging flaring of the series of the Earth damaging flaring of the series of the serie damaging flaring nff and wastage of Nigerian gas by 45 (FnE), Charles Secrett, would not condemn the investment deper cent, says Shell. It would also bring thnusands of concision. "We think that if Shell intends to carry on operating in Nigeria as it has in the past, then struction jobs to an impoverished region of an impoverished it should get out right now. It country.

has to recognise its social and environmental obligations."
The problem for Shell's many critics is that its participation in the gas plant may reflect such ternational. A World Bank subsidiary, the

International Finance Corportion, pulled out of the project hours after the nine executions in protest. But since it was noly expected in take a 2 per cent shareholding and loan \$100m. its withdrawal dealt only a

Greenpeace and FoE are to-Shell has more than 90 oil wells and hundreds of miles of gether planning a day of action in Britain against the Nigerian government and Shell at the pipelines in the 400 square mile Ogoni area where half a weekeed, aloog with other

groups including Amnesty In-million people live. It was accused by Mr Saro Wiwa and nthers of causing environmental devastation there. Apair from the noisy, polluting gas flares there have been hundreds of oil spills which have pulluted farmland and

waterways.

Brussels — European Union foreign ministers will formally approve an arms embargo and military rulers next Monday Reuter reports.



Statue shutdown: A German tourist views the Statue of Liberty from afar after the lay-off of federal workers forced it to close to visitors

Time stands still during US budget deadlock

DAVID USBORNE New York

As a large part of the United States government has sputtered to a halt this week, thanks to the continuing budget standoff in Washington, so too has the infamous national debt clock above Times Square in Man-

late New York real estate de- ically, the debt has stopped

spending habit, the digital clock, composed of 350 high-wattage bulbs, is usually a blur of accumulating numbers as \$10,000 a second is added to the total. Yesterday the couot stayed

frozen at \$4,985,567,071,200. We shut it off, because the government has closed down," explained the late developer's Installed six years ago by the son, Douglas Durst. "Theoret-

terest oo the debt has not stopped."

Roughly half of the federal government's employees, about 800,000 workers, have been put on indefinite leave and it is uoclear whether they will be paid for the lost days. Meanwhile, government facilities ranging from passport offices to the natiooal parks remain closed. Even surfers of the Internet are affected: all government "home veloper. Seymnur Durst, to growing, even though the in- pages" have been abandoned.

stay stopped is anyone's guess. Nn further meetings were scheduled between the Republican leadership in Congress and President Bill Clinton to try to resolve their differences oo a new budget. Newt Gingrich, leader of the House of Represcotatives, conceded yesterday that talks between the two sides

oo Monday and Tuesday had

made little progress. "I don't

think we're an inch closer," he

How long the debt clock will said. His Democratic counterpart, Dick Gephardt, con-curred: "It looks like this is

going to be a pretty long siege."
While public reaction to the crisis is overwhelmingly one of frustration with politicians in general, President Clinton seems for now to be suffering the least damage, and may even be bolstering his overall position by refusing to accede to Republican demands for a programme to balance the hudget

in popular medical and social service programmes.

According to a USA To-day/CNN pnll, 49 per cent of Americans are blaming the Republican Congress for the imbroglio, with nnly 26 per cent putting the primary blame on Mr Clinton, who favours a less savage approach to spending cuts, and balancing the budget over 10 years.

News Analysis, page 19

IN BRIEF

Spaniard joins race for top Nato post

Brussels - Denmark fought last night to keep its former foreign minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen in the running for the top jub at Nato but support was emerging for the compromise candidary

nato but support was emerging to the compromise candidary of Spain's Foreign Minister, Javier Solana.

Nato ambassadors will discuss the issue today after France, piqued at Washingtoo's rejectinn of the Dutch candidate, Rund Lubbers, refused to accept Mr Ellemann-Jensen. Mr Solana's name emerged after numerous defence and foreign ministers of the Western European Union praised him at a meeting in Madrid on Thesday and the United States added its praise yesterday. Renter

Former South Korean president held

Seoul - The former South Korean president Roh Tae-woo, in what may be his last few hnurs of freedom, was being interrogated late last night over his \$654m (£421m) slush funds as media reports said his arrest was imminent. Several newspapers carried head-lines this morning reading "Mr Roh Arrested Today" and State television reported he would be arrested soon.

US confirms threats before Saudi bomb

Riyadh - The US embassy here received anti-Western threats before Mooday's bombing that killed five Americans but did not make major security changes because Saudi Arabia was seen as "nne of the safest" places in the world, the US ambassador said yesterday. The Islamic Movement for Change vowed to "exert all available means" to evict Western forces.

Reward increased for Tamil Tiger chief

Colombo - Police announced a fivefuld increase in the reward for information leading to the capture of the commander of the rebel Tamil Tigers, Velupillai Prabhakaran. The reward is now 25m rupees (£322,0001, police chief Wickremasinghe Rajaguru

Walesa neck-and-neck with rival

Warsaw - President Lech Walesa and his former-Communist rival met in a crucial television debate last night with opinion polls showing they were neck-and-neck just days before Sunday's second-round presidential elections. A poll by the public CBOS institute showed that Mr Walesa was supported by 46 per cent of voters against 43 per cent for the challenger, Aleksander Kwasniewski, with 10 per cent undecided. The private Demoskop agency also put him ahead with 53 per cent to 47.

Killer put to death for \$5 murder

Potosi, Missouri - A man was executed by injection yesterday for beating his grandmother in a dispute over money and leaving her to die in her burning home in 1985. Robert Sidehottnm, 33, who had been oo death row since 1987, was executed at the Potosi Correctional Center after the Supreme Court turned down lastminute requests for a stay. Sidebottom coofessed to beating his grandmother after she gave him \$5 - less than what he had demanded, prosecutors said.

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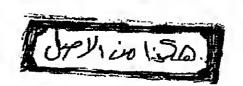


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Beatlemania? Help! is at hand.

Beatlemania is back again, and WHSmith is joining in the frenzy. We've got three videos of the Fab Four that have digitally re-mastered stereo soundtracks along with previously unseen footage. The Making of A Hard Day's Night costs just £9.99 and has never been available before in the UK. The films are £10.99 each. Not bad for the biggest reunion of the decade.

There's more to Christmas gifts with $\overline{WHSMI^{\circ}H}$.





n so many ways they are sim-Lilar. Both are hig men of a certain age, habyboomers with luxuriant silver thatches, just starting to run to seed. Both are southerners and products of dysfunctional families. Both are fodder for every armchair psychologist in the land. They are a quick and clever pair, who can talk the hind legs off a donkey. They adore advertising their intelligence, even if the price is a certain economy with the truth. Neither, though, is a paragon of moral rectitude, which is why neither is wholly trusted. And together they have arrived at the pionacle of American politics - the first Democratic President in half a generation, and the Republican who is the most powerful House speaker in recent memory.

Today, however, in the great hudget war of 1995, Bill Clinton and Newt Gingrich are engaged in perhaps the defining combat of their political

A government shutdown is an only-in-Washington affair. Elsewhere it might be the precursor of a coup. Here it is Kakfaesque rite of autumn, happening on average every

couple of years (to be precise nine times since 1981), when-ever Congress and the White House fail to agree on the hudget. Normally, they end after a few hours, at most a few days. But 1995 may be different. Behind the childish fingerwagging, the negotiation by insult that has most Americans yearning anew for Colin Powell and wondering what they did to deserve so malfunctioning a polity, huge and intertwined interests are at stake.

These include some of the most distinguished careers in Washington and quite possibly the presidency itself - but beyond even that, two competing visions of society. A year before he faces re-election, Clinton has established bimself as defender of an old Democroots to Franklin Roosevelt's push its "contract" through. New Deal and Lyndon Johnson's vision of a Great Society. Ranged against it is the 1994, whose walking, talking

embodiment is Gingrich. The collision has been inevitable ever since 8 Novemher last year, when the Republicans rode a wave of disgust

Rupert Cornwell describes the great showdown between warrior Newt Gingrich and healer Bill Clinton over their competing visions of America's future

 $\star\star\star\star\star$

with business-as-usual in Washington to capture control of Congress for the first time in 40 years. For once, an American political party had a manifesto, the Contract with America, setting out the Republicans' plans to roll back government, return powers to the states and though no one paid much attention at the time - to halance the federal budget in seven years. And for once, in Gingrich, a political party had ratic idea of America, tracing its a man absolutely determined to

In technical terms, the present impasse is a nightmare to explain: a jungle of such Republican Revolution" of abstruse notions as continuing resolutions, 13 separate appropriations bills and Section B Medicare - not to mention contending expert budget projections stretching into the next millennium, which in fact may

offer ground for the compromise that must finally come. Peer through the forest and pick out the trees, though, and the struggle becomes clear cut, and titanic

Behind the hickering lie two competing concepts of a gov-ernment's role in society. Clinton's vetoes this week of hills that would have given the goverument temporary authority to borrow and spend money and which have sent 800,000 majority leader. but a tiny foretaste of what is to come. Any day now we will get to the meat of the matter: the giant "reconciliation bill" which the Republicans are preparing to send to the White House, containing their plan to cut planned spending by \$1,000bn, and taxes by \$245bn, and balance the budget - all hy 2002. Far more than a bill, this

is the bible of the New Republicanism. Clinton will surely veto it on the spot. In doing so, he will set out the ground on which the 1996 election will be

fought.
To measure the moment, consider what is in truth a sideshow to the main event: the predicament of Bob Dole. Careers come scarcely more distinguished than his: senator for 27 years, minority leader, federal workers home - were candidate in 1980 and 1988, and now favourite for the Republican nomination next year. But at his obligatory appearances with Gingrich to rail hudget invective on the White House, the majority leader's twitchy discomfort is plain to see. Left to a dealmaking pragmatist such as Bob Dole, the dispute would long since have heen settled.

Instead, he watches in the knowledge that his chances of victory in 1996 do not lie in his hands. He may be the Republican candidate, but Gingrich, not he, is Republicanism made flesh. And Gingrich, to put it mildly, is not loved.

A year after the 1994 election, political Washington may still he besotted by him. Not so the country at large, ever more alienated by the Gingrich that his devotees in the capit somehow overlook - the harsh voice that tears apart opponents as a pneumatic drill rips up asphalt, the lack of evident compassion for the needy of society, his doctrinaire glibness, on occasion his sheer silliness. Twelve months ago, he offered refreshing astringency and new ideas. Now, more frequently, he gets on people's nerves. No US politician has

higher disapproval ratings. Gingrich muses of a presiden-tial run, hut if the polls are right, he would be trounced not only by Clinton but also in the Republican primaries, supposedly dominated by the very right-wing activists who hang on his every utterance. Rather, this battle over the budget is Gingrich's own presidential election.

And thus unfolds a classic contest between two political stereotypes, the warrior against the healer. To prevail, both must borrow from the persona of the other. Clinton has to show that, contrary to public perception, there are principles he will not abandon, that there is steel, not just putty, in his spine. The task of Gingrich the warmor is exactly opposite - to show that he cares about ordinary people, that he can deliver a deal as well as a soundbite.

So far at least, Clinton is winning. He has the advantage of being a single voice from the pulpit of the White House, speaking "on hehalf of the American people" - a far more potent formula than the multiperson Republican choir wheeled out to respond in the

Congressional press room. Skilfully, he has defined the argument, playing upon fear and painting the Republicans in general, and Gingrich in particular, as extremist idecogues bent on destroying the Medicare and Medicaid feceral health schemes for the elderly and the poor, removing the welfare safety net and doing away with basic work safety and environmental regulations - all for tax cuts that will benefit the rich. Clinton's tactics are working. By a margin of five to one, according to a poll yesterday, the public blames Congress rather than the President for the country's troubles.

But the equation may change if the deadlock continues. Until now, Cunton has g simply saying no. With the reconciliation hill, he will have t come up with ideas of his own. and explain how he plans to balance the hudget, a goal as unassailable as motherhood. I: the public starts to shift hlame in his direction, today's resolv: may weaken. If so, it would not he the making of a President Gingrich. But it could mean the end of President Clinton.

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Diary

JOHN WALSH

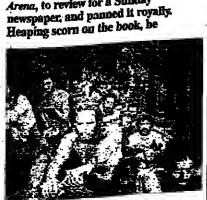
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Hot news, if a little late, about the journalistic profession's own King Lear, Sir David English, editor-in-chief of Associated Newspapers. Last Friday he turned up in Dorset, to accept an honorary DLitt from the University of Bournemouth (which, although it's one of those phonus-balonus new universities, boasts a BA degree course in the inky trade). Sir David's connections with the town are numerous: he was born there, went to school there, had his first job there ... and was nicked by the police there.

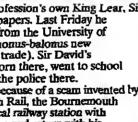
As he told the thunderstruck audience, it was all because of a scam invented by his paper. To expose the laxness of security on British Rail, the Bournemouth Evening Echo sent its quaking cub reporter to the local railway station with instructions to pinch a few mailbags from the platform and return with his trophies. Unbeknown to young David, the police had coincidentally decided, that

very day, to clamp down on petty theft on local transport. Lying in wait, they were delighted to see an obvious delinquent loading his van with purloined sacks, and arrested the miscreant on the spot. In court, English and the Echo were found guilty of "interfering with the Queen's Mail" and fined £10,000, a whacking sum in the mid-Fifties. With massive chutzpah, the paper headlined the story Bournemouth man arrested for train robbery", without mentioning that it was the Echo that had sent him off to do so.

Left-Hand/Right-Hand Ignorance Dept. Sheridan Morley, the ebullient host of Radio 2's Arts Show and omniscient commentator on all things filmic, dramatic and showbiznic, suffered an epic embarrassment this week. A month ago he was given the memoirs of Charlton Heston, In the Arena, to review for a Sunday



A row with Charlton



The great train robber

reminisced about Heston's stage performance in A Man for All Sensor (in which "the most moving thing about his performance as Sir Thomas More was, in fact, his hairpiece"), mocked the "military efficiency" of the silver screen's Moses and concluded: "A terrible humourlessness pervades these memoirs ... he has never managed to shake off the image of a portentous head prefect." So far, so

Picture, then, Sheridan's discomfiture on Monday morning, on learning that Chariton H was booked to appear as a guest on his radio show yup, Ben Hur in person, sitting right there in front of him, seething with indignation, with only a microphone between them. It was, I suspect, with some relief that Morley received a cart message from the great man's press agent: "Mr Heston found your review at best unhelpful, and will not now be appearing on your show"

The consumer magazine Which?, with its happy hiend of shopping advice and ghastly case-histories of personal suffering, is always an amusing read, though I sometimes wonder if they make it up. Now I know different. Two friends of mine, Alison and Andrew, make a star appearance in the next issue because of a horrible experience in a restaurant.

The place was a new centre for

African cuisine in Deansgate, Manchester, and, along with four friends, Alison and Andrew went there for a birthday supper. No tables appeared to be ready for them, although they were the only diners in the place. They ordered starters and mains and couscous, then sat and waited. And waited. At length the first course arrived, but by the time midnight struck, the glories of African cuisine had still not appeared, and one couple had to go home to their habysitter. When the dishes finally came, they were cold as the grave, and were sent back to be reheated. The prawns rechauffées moved from frozen to overcooked and were like cotton wool. The hirthday party began to complain. Then the bill was unceremoniously slapped on the table, service and all; it even included a charge for the couple who had decamped at midnight after eating nothing. The party refused to pay the full whack, and everything suddenly went ballistic. The female proprietor yelled abuse, then ran and locked the front door. She threatened to call the police but instead could be heard ringing a private "security firm". Then, from below the kitchen, three hurly African plongeurs surfaced and took up threatening positions around the restaurant, with all the charm of the Gimp in Pulp Fiction. It was not a happy scene. Just as my friends were wondering if they were going to be mashed into a mirepoix of bone and tissue, the police arrived. The birthday girl went home in tears, a final hail of imprecations ringing in

her head. The name of the restaurant is Jowata's. It translates as "Wealth of Hospitalities".

The British tradition of silly clubs is going strong. I've just heard of the Useless Information Club, whose 40 members (they include Keith Waterhouse and Godfrey Smith) met for the first time at L'Epicure last week. After dinner, each member had to rise and tell the company some completely unexciting piece of news, something that could not possibly assist them on their voyage down the information superhighway. Some items were considered too interesting to be acceptable, and were gonged off (such as Waterbouse's reminder that when King Kong was released in 1933, it went by the title King Kong in every country in the world except Sweden, where kong means "king" and the film was therefore titled Kong King). Later, another diner informed the gathering that his mother-in-law's name was Gertrude. Unable to think of a thing to do with this datum, they declared him a worthy winner.

Ageing juveniles and character actors were out in force at London's Theatre Museum on Tuesday to launch Philip Hoare's life of Noël Coward. Among the crush in the plush were Nickolas Grace, fresh from the final Urqubart saga on television, Peter Ackroyd, the famously sober and restrained novelist and hiographer, Ned Sherrin, the chording impresario, and an anonymous female psychic who confided that it was her habit to send clay voodoo dolls through the post to people who displeased her. Various Maughams, effete young diarists, wheezing Invvies and even Jane Birkin's mum (the first person to sing "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square") wandered through the museum's stately rooms and bore down on the beaming author.

Mr Hoare was beaming because his five years' devoted work had been rewarded beyond his wildest dreams. Graham Payn, Coward's devoted friend and executor, had just presented him with Coward's beautiful wristwatch, a Longines number with a strap apparently of beaten gold. Unfortunately, from where I was standing, it seemed to be 25 minutes fast....



* INDEPENDENT

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Waiting for the Budget

T he Queen does not fit the usual profile of a political back, whose chief aim is to score points against political opponents. Not for them crowns, bugles and regal finery. They are normally seen in crumpled suits, bleary-eyed and slightly down at heel. Yet the head of state was called upon yesterday to play low politics. She had to set out the Government's big idea: to make Labour squirm.

Her speech to Parliament described a menu for the forthcoming session which, ministers admit in private, has been chosen to give Labour indigestion. The crackdown on asylum-seekers and the benefits they receive is meant to make Labour look soft on immigration: it is called playing the race card. In a similar vein, the Government wants to shift the legal balance in favour of the prosecution by changing the rules on disclosure of evidence. It's the taw and order card, aimed at showing that Labour is, after all, soft on crime. Likewise, proposals to make it easier for schools to become grant-maintained will focus attention on Labour's dilemma: the party opposes GM schools, the establishments where some members of the Shadow Cabinct like to educate their children. Highlighting Labour's ideological confusions and lingering hypocrisy has considerable merit, hut these measures have little additional purpose. Britain is not overrun by refugees. Guilty defendants do not routimely run rings around prosecutors. And it is already simple for a school to opt out, provided parents approve. The Government is wasting parliamentary time in the greater cause of gening itself re-elected.

Such factics are deeply depressing, though hardly unexpected at this stage in the parliamentary cycle. Even in the determinedly strategic days of Margaret Thatcher, the Conservatives had a doctrine that nothing really radical could be pushed through the Commons except in

the first couple of years after an election.

The compensation is that among the 16 Bills outlined yesterday there are several sensible measures. Legislation allowing disabled people to receive state cash to choose equipment and services for themselves is a great innovation: people with chronic conditions often know better than the experts how to meet their needs. The decision to allow the Health Service Ombudsman to investigate the clinical udgement of doctors strikes a hlow for pubhic accountability, though many GPs, predictably, will hate being under the spotlight.

Lord Mackay's reforms of the laws governing divorce and domestic violence are humane and deserve to survive attacks from the Tory right. And ministers have rightly recognised, in their planned broad-casting legislation, that cross-media ownership needs to be relaxed to allow British companies to diversify and face foreign competition. But in setting limits on market shares, this legislation should also ensure that would-be monopolists, in particular the Murdoch empire, do not wamp local competition.

In these practical measures, there is no sign of a big innovative idea that the Con-servatives will need if they are to recover from their deep unpopularity in time for the general election. There was little or nothing that addresses Britain's most pressing concerns: job insecurity, unem-ployment and the absence of an economic feel-good factor. The solutions have been left to the one forthcoming Bill that was not mentioned yesterday - the Finance Bill - which the Chancellor will unveil in his Budget on 28 November. On that, not ernment's electoral future now hangs.



If the Queen thinks it's lough playing change they have been left behind by the pupper for the Government, life is world, and a crisis of the monarchy has ahout to get even less amusing. For Diana's début on Panorama next Monday has the nation gripped with anticipation. it is played out in the full glare of publicity. Will she titillatë us with lurid deta rows in the royal bedchamber?

Whatever she says, it bodes ill for the Queen's conception of the monarchy. But that is prohably no bad thing. The Princess could be the catalyst for some necessary and positive changes.

Let's face it, the present monarchy sits uneasily with our modern society. A country that aspires to be meritocratic and classless retains as its figurehead a family that stands at the apex of the class system. The Queen is the symbolic representation of our nation. Yet many no longer wish to he symbolised by a detached, privileged and superior hereditary elite.

The monarchy could have adapted quietly to cope with all these problems. The Scandinavian and Benelux monarchies did exactly that. Humbler, calmer, closer to the lives of the people of their country, they ride bicycles through the streets and have paid tax for years.

Instead, the Royal Family tried to preserve its position of pomp and detached privilege by repackaging itself as a fairy-tale. But just as the Windsors' aristocratic lifestyle runs counter to every trend in modern society, so their fairy-tale image is incompatible with the reality of modern relationships. By resisting gradual

heen the inevitable consequence. And their resort to television has ensured that

The Princess has been cast in the mos interesting role in this historical drama. She is the catalyst either for renewal or destruction, depending on how the rest of the royals respond. For she has huilt a huge public following by hreaking the tra-ditional royal mode. By cuddling her children, riding the rapids at a children's theme park, jogging, driving her own car and listening to pop music, she has carved out a distinctive image for herself. She is not an inspiring, exciting or regal figure, nor is she a role model for today's youth.

What we are witnessing is a public relations battle between the Royal Family of the past and the mother of the future monarch. Ironic as it might seem, the Princess's challenge might just push and cajole the Royal Family into modernising itself rather more than it has so far been prepared to accept. If she goes too far in pursuit of revenge against her husband. she could drag the whole institution down into an orgy of muck-raking recrimina-

of Wales could be forced to respond. The royals have resisted change for 100 long. Undignified as these royal rows certainly are, they could conceivably help to create a monarchy fit for the 21st century.

But she is modern and sympathetic.

tions. If she gets it right, then the Prince

ANOTHER VIEW Vanessa Feltz

Let's hear it from Herself

A pox on the pusillanimous pundits who would ban the Princess of Wales from the box. What would they have her do - compose a retaliatory haiku? Let's face it, a more televisual creature never bestrode a multi-gym. The woman is a navy-blue-blooded Anthea Turner. Lunge a Pentax at her bottle-blonde highlights and she sizzles. Public criss-crossing of the scarcely-Versaced royal thighs has become

a performance art. This princess was positively born to broadcast. What is more, she has tried turning the other silken cheek and stiffening her (subity glossed) upper lip, and where has it dumped her? Up to her swan neck in the seething effluent of malevolent speculation, rising backles and sor-did surmise. Life as a fallen idol is not all lightly tossed radicchio at Le Caprice, you know. When every Tom, Dick, James and ex-rock-moll-PR chick is entitled to spill beans, vent spleens and dish dirt, some-how dignified silence lacks bite. No one loves an enigma. Post-Andrew Morton passivity starts to look frighteningly like an admission of guilt. Eventually, a girl's gotta do what every slighted woman from Mandy Smith to Germaine Greer has done before her - sit on a sofa in a truly fetching little suit and unburden her soul

in the nation's living rooms.

Anyone who thinks Diana will stick her Maud Frizon-shod foot in it cannot have been paying much attention to the venomous character-smashing that the poor dear has already endured. When Cornflakes' eaters globally are already convinced you are a ruthless, home-wrecking. telephone-abusing hulimic with megalomaniacal exhibitionist tendencies, there is not a whole lot of cred to shed.

What is more, she has the comfort of knowing she cannot possibly make more of a ham-fisted hash of it than the Prince of Wales. Dimbleby and Charles were the Cannon and Ball of documentaries, as spontaneous as autocue, as wooden as Charles's heart. Diana, reading a pre-written speech, is unadulterated vowel-mangling torment but, one to one off-the-cuff. the lady is a star. Of course, the best television gives the illusion of being precisely that, one individual speaking intimately to another. If the Panorama produces soothes her shyness, slices through the red tape and pulls it off, we should hear the 20th-century's unhappiest icon unscripted

It is appropriate that we bask in Diann's own version of the conjugal scraps which have kept so-called "royal correspondents" in Armani, if only to oust the hum-hugs and parasites. Diana has performed sterling service salvaging flagging dinnerparty conversation for well over a decade. Surely she has earned the right to look us squarely in the lens and distinguish the tittle from the tattle? The Princess's only mistake is choosing such a frothy, trivial, lightweight programme for soul-baring. She would fare far better on Vanessa.

The writer hosts a chat show on ITV



The ratings war

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Problems of legal Ecstasy

From Mr Charles de Lacy Sir: You propose (leading article; "The agony of Ecstasy", 14 November) that Ecstasy should he brought within the law but you give no consideration to the complex problems this would

For example, all legitimate drugs have to have a proven track record in terms of their safety hefore they are licensed. To hring Ecstasy within the law, would you imagine it being submitted to all the rigorous tests of any other pharmaceutical

drug?

Or is your proposal that any illegally used substances that are widely used will be deemed to be safe and legitimate for recreational purposes, hut not medical

purposes? If the latter route were taken it would have a detrimental knock-on effect on the overall safety of medicines. It would lead to a culture and an outlook that no longer had the rigorous standards we expect from our pharmaceutical industry.

If we are to follow your proposal of legalisation on abused drugs, this must be within the current parameters of testing and licensing. This would mean some recreational drugs never being licensed, because they are dangerous. Others could he licensed but only available on

prescription I suggest that this scenario is impracticable, and we should accept that there will always be an illegal drugs industry, albeit decriminalised, and with the consequential result that from time to time people will die.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES DE LACY Chelmsford,

15 November

From Dr Richard Pullinger Sir: Your suggestion that "Ecstasy must be brought within the law (14 November) is based on an incorrect assumption. By focussing on the possible adverse effects of contaminants you have missed the crucial point that unadulterated Ecstasy is not safe. Readers of the national and medical press will be aware of the many cases where death has been attributed to Ecstasy itself.

Bringing Ecstasy within the law would be misguided and Yours faithfully, RICHARD PULLINGER Reading 14 November

New mums - what you need is broth

From Mrs Christine Smith Sir: Perhaps pregnant women living on benefit need educating ("Mothers' poor eating puts babies at risk", 14 November).

How about making soup: a marrow bone (a few pence from the butcher), root vegetables, perhaps a tin of tomatoes and some lentils, and bread for the children to dunk. Very nutritious, warming and inexpensive. A teaspoon of yeast extract stirred in would add nutrition and flavour.

Yours faithfully CHRISTINE SMITH London, Et

Nigerian lessons for Shell and for the world

From Mr Menzies Campbell, MP Sir: The law is quite clear. The directors of a limited company must manage its affairs in the best interests of its sharebolders. They must put ethical considerations

The directors of Shell would do well to keep those principles firmly in mind when they contemplate further investment in Nigeria. How can it possibly be in the interests of their shareholders to invest further in a country where civil war could break out at any time, whose leaders are unamenable to reason, and which could easily become the subject

of economic sanctions?

A prudent director of a public company would want to put his shareholders' money where there lences. All they need to do is to

fulfil their legal duty. Yours etc, MENZIES CAMPBELL MP for Fife North East (Lib Dem) Hnuse of Commons London, SW1

The writer is the Liberal Democrat spokesman on foreign affairs and defence. From Mr David Bull

Sir. Your article "Shell defices calls to pull out of oil operations" (13 November) states that Amnesty International is one of

Potential power

of wind farms

From Mr C. B. Moynihan

Sir: I would just like to point out that although Nicholas Schoon is

correct in his statement that wind

farms currently generate around one-thousandth of Britain's elec-

tricity production ("Vote of con-

fidence in future of rubbish-to-

power brokers", 3 November),

his tone is somewhat misleading

This statistic is a reflection of the

comparative youth of the indus-

try rather than its future poten-

tial, and fails to take into account

the rapid pace of technological

advancement since the introduct-

ion of the Non-Possil Fuel Oblig-ation (NFFO) in 1989, for which

I was ministerially responsible in

The power output of the aver-

age wind turbine is set to dou-

ble in the next few years. An average wind farm of 25 much-

ines now might produce enough

in satisfy the power needs of

5,000 houses. However, wind

farms of the future could be able

Sir: In your profiles of men who

might aspire to be press harons ("To be king of the fourth estate" 14 November), you men-

tioned the chairman of this com-

pany and said that Mohamed al-

Fayed has probably resigned himself to doing without a knighthood, which you said was

part of the appeal of media

ownership. Mr al-Fayed considers that his

ownership of two national insti-tutions, L'Hotel Ritz, Paris and Harrods of Knightsbridge is hon-

our enough for any man, hul you

appear to have overlooked the

fael that as an Egyptian he is not

the early Nineties.

Honours of

From Mr Michael Cole

ownership

several organisations "united in up as concern for the Nigerian the belief that there should be international oil sanctions" against Nigeria. In fact Amnesty International never calls for sanc-tions but instead uses a wide range of campaigning techniques including the application of intense world-wide pressure on governments flouting interna-

tional human rights standards. The Nigerian government's hiatant defiance of international appeals to spare the lives of Ken Saro-Wiwa and the eight Other human rights activists was a senseless, ootrageous act. It is now vital that political and diplomatic pressure on the Nigerian authorities to urgently tackle their human rights crisis he maintained and increased. We was much less risk than in Nige- could not save Ken Saro-Wiwa ria. The directors of Shell need and his co-defendants, but we not wrestle with their con- must not give up on those othsave their lives.

Sincerely. DAVID BULL Amnesty International UK London, EC1 14 November

From Mr Bill Morris Sir. Dick van den Broek. Shell's regional co-ordinator for Africa, argues (Another View, 13 November) against a hoycott of the brutal Nigerian regime for reasons of self-interest dressed

that we could get 10 per cent of

our electricity from the wind by

2010 is no longer a figure

genuinely achievable goal.

The great success of the wind

industry in rising to the challenge set by NFFO is demonstrated by

the 50 per cent fall in prices over

taken a significant step towards realising the original objectives

bebind the establishment of

NFFO: namely, the contribu-

tion towards pollution reduction

Under-Secretary of State for Energy, 1990-92.

eligible to be "Sir Mohamed". As

him acquiring a newspaper or a radio station, it is hardly likely

that the Prime Minister will be

recommending him for an hon-orary knighthood - notwith-

standing the fact that Mr al-

Faved almost certainly

contributes more in personal

income tax to the national exche

quer than the entire membership

of the House of Commons,

including the Speaker.

Director of Public Affairs

Yours faithfully.

MICHAEL COLE

These achievements have

the last live years.

context.

Yours faithfully,

C. B. MOYNIHAN

London, SEI

t0 November

CMA Consultants

plucked out of the air, but is a

people. However, Shell must accept some of the hlame for the tragic abuse of human rights in Nigeria, culminating in the judi-eial murder of Ken Saro-Wiwa and his colleagues.

The Etche and Ogoni people have protested against Shell for its exploitation and pollution of their land for vast profits, which have not been shared with the people of the Niger river delta. Shell's response to the people's protestations was typical - no negotiation. Shell would rather call in the police than negotiate. The Nigerian military government must be punished by the global community. But is Shell to be allowed to extricate itself from

this situation without any blame? Governments must recognise that transnational companies, particularly oil companies such ers who still depend on interna- as Shell, have to operate within tional pressure on Nigeria to a framework of controls so that governments can protect their people from the worst excesses of the hlind pursuit of profit. Mr Van den Brock's special pleading nolwithstanding. The Nigerian tragedy is a lesson to all countries - not just developing ones, hut those in the developed world as well.

Yours sincerely, BILL MORRIS General Secretary T&G

London, SWt 14 November

to produce twice that amount of Sex, survival and electricity using the same numconstruction firms her of turbines. The suggestion

From Ms Sandi Rhys Jones Sir: The balance between arguing the moral case and the economic case for equal opportunities depends very much on the nature of the business being addressed (Letters, 9 November). The recent government/industry review of the construction industry carried out by Sir Michael Latham calls for a reduction in real costs of 30 per cent and an increase in the number of women. A tall order for a male-

dominated industry battered by and diversity, security and susrecession. tainability of energy supplies The moral imperative is hardly foremost in the minds of those within an economically attractive and environmentally acceptable companies struggling to survive and there is legislation in place to deal with that issue. Therefore the working group set up in response to the Latham Review to improve equal opportunities in the industry has focused on the The writer was Parliamentary business case, because it is the most persuasive and constructive

argument for change.

To survive, the construction industry must change to attract and retain the best people for the job. The benefits will be for men. this Government has denied him women, the industry and the British citizenship, against all the tenets of natural justice, and clients it serves. has gone out of its way to prevent

Our initiatives are gender-led, not gender specific. Yours since rely, SANOI RHYS JONES

Chairwonian Construction Industry Board London, WCI t4 November

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor and include daytime telephone aumber. (Fax: 0171-293 2056: e-mail: lettersia independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Back issues of the Independent are available from Historic Newspapers, 1800 906609.

Fine-tuning the lottery

From Mr Denis Vaughan Sir: There can be no doubt the

National Lottery has delivered to Britain a capacity for greater funding of sport, charities and the arts than previously possible. But the success of the National Lottery is not limited to its achievements to date; n greater potential for funding of the arts, sports and charities is yet to be realised.

When I argued for a lottery, hack in 1989, few believed it could happen, and fewer could see the limitless possibilities of using the lottery as a vehicle to increase participation and enthusiasm in sport and the arts.

Today, the success of the lottery speaks for itself, but we cannot be complacent with the achievement to date. The future of the National Lottery depends on ensuring we work to maximis the funds available to the good causes and that the original purpose of the lottery - to increase the quality of life for us all - is not forgotten.

We must focus our attention on line-tuning the success of the National Lottery. Our aims are simple: the abolition of the 12 per cent tax on the lottery. redrafting the lottery licence in the form of a service contract and adjusting the distribution process to ensure that 80 per cent of all good-cause funds go to the National Lottery Charities Board, leaving the minimum five per cent required by law to each of the other four beneficiaries.

Despite its success we should not be content with the present state of the National Lottery. There are still many jackpots to be realised. Yours sincerely,

DENIS VAUGHAN Executive Director The Lottery Promotion Company London, WC2

Straight men and macho culture

From Mr Peter Tatchell Sir: The Commission on Children and Violence is right to point ont the links between "macho male attitudes" and aggressive antisocial behaviour (report, 9 November). However, to understand fully violent criminality. we need also to recognise that it is a form of behaviour associated overwhelmingly with young male heterosexuals (and very rarely with gay men). In straight male culture, aggression is deemed cool for "real men". Many act tough hecause they fear being accused of sissiness and queerness. Belligerence is seen as a way of asserting their masculinity and

their heterosexuality.
So long as male sensitivity and tenderness is looked down upon as unmanly and queer, large numbers of straight men (especially those who are insecure about their sex-ual orientation) will continue to project a bellicose machismo to "prove" their manhood and avoid the "taint" of homosexuality.

Reducing male violence is thus partly bound up with eradicating homophobia. When heterosexual men no longer despise gentleness or fear queers, fewer will feel the need to act tough to distance themselves from the homosexual "other". Yours sincerely, PETER TATCHELL

London, SE1

One solution for the Tories after yesterday's timid tinkering is to stop pretending they are in power

The Queen's Speech hrought its ately attracted to it. He didn't say wby not; the main reason was surely the of our parliamentary culture. "What a pathetic bunch ... a tawdry, low-life, demeaning exercise in political tac-ics." said the Leader of the Opposin, "Childish, juvenile nonsense ... tional baloney, replied the Prime Minister. On the other hand, to be positive, no Members actually dropped their trousers and waggled their bottoms at the other side - but then, I couldn't see the whole cham-

ber clearly. High politics it wasn't neither in the debate nor in the ideas being debated. The most interesting thought of the day came from Tony Blair when he suggested that the asylum and immi-gration measures be put before a standing committee of the Commons, taking evidence about the bogus asyhum-seeker problem, so that consensus could be achieved and race be kept out of politics.

That would scupper any attempt to use this issue to divide the parties - as a Tory strategist had chillingly suggested a few weeks ago. On the other hand, it would prevent Labour from continuing to question the Conservatives bona fides, as Jack Straw and Tony Blair have been doing. This would shut both sides up.

Among those nodding his vigorous agreement when Blair suggested it was Jim Lester, the One Nation Tory and close friend of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Major bad an urgent mut-tered conversation with Tony Newton, the Leader of the Commons, who was sitting beside him. He said he would

direction it came from, and the fact it was thrown out without warning as a debating point. But it would be a good gauntlet for him to stoop and pick up. Blair would win credit; but so would Major. It would be good for the reputation of politics.

Which, of course, would mark it out from most of what is fated to happen over the next year or so, as this marathon mud-fight of an election campaign slithers on. It is not going to be an beroic period. The Queen's Speech was a mixture of blatantly second-order party political issues, chosen not for their importance to Britain but for the way they will sharpen differences between the parties, and middly interesting administrative measures.

We should not be censorious about the party-dividing issues, the asylum Bill and the measures on grant-main-tained schools and the Bill on media ownership. You can't be in favour of democracy and against party politics. Not yet, anyway. But these measures may seem a little too blatantly party-inspired to do the Tories much good in the country.

As Douglas Hurd clegantly suggested in the context of divorce reform, "in this climate, political success goes to those who sound least like politicians". The wisest saying of the day, that should be carved in tropical hardwood and bung across the door of the Commons chamber.

The media Bill should be seen partly as a party matter simply because



ANDREW MARR Columnist of the Year

of newspapers and hroadcasting companies is now so intensely sensitive. It is the place where private power and political power are currently clinching. The new measure would have two politically interesting effects. It raises just just enough of a question-mark over the longer-term future of Rupert Murdoch's newspaper holdings to make him pause when Tory ministers suggest that he shows a hit of loyalty

in the run-up to the election. It would also open the way for Associated Newspapers, owner of the Daily Mail, to pounce on Yorkshire Television or Tyne-Tees, or both. Immediately after mentioning the measure yesterday Mr Major stated that "we, as a party, have a long tra-dition of helping those in need". He may have meant the measures on homelessness he went on to discuss; but for a split second, one had the surreal impression that he was talking about Lord Rothermere.

Well, as I say, we musm't be cen-sorious. Everything bar race is fair game in politics. And there is also the usual raft of measures that come under the broad heading of adminisconsider the idea, but wasn't immedianything that touches the ownership trative reform - changes to the way

rity service to become involved in the drugs war, changes to court procedures and so on.

These raise bitter passions among special interest groups and the closed order of political obsessives, but none is likely to raise a weary eyebrow in Kenneth Clarke's fabled saloon bar, the Dog and Duck. For that we must await his Budget, when the income-tax cuts long predicted by this newspaper may set the national debate alive in a way the Queen's Speech basn't.

In the good times, sensible administrative reforms and the odd bold stroke which suggests a longer-term programme of change are enough to get governments re-elected. But these are not good times, or at least, not good chough times. Had the economy been growing

really strongly and the housing market moving, then the significance of, for instance, the education reforms would have seemed more substantial. Part of the trick of democratic politics is to give a sense of forward movement. When a government seems young and virile that can be done with relative modest legislation, like the early Thatcher trade union reforms, because we assume that the measures will accumulate; we judge the political intention as well as the immediate legal wording.

The core of this government's dilemma, as exposed yesterday, is that it seems old. It cannot convey forward energy or a sense of its own future. So these measures, administrative or

disabled people get funding, training measures, housing, an extension of the powers of the under-employed secuvouchers, or the asylum measures, or the Broadcasting Bill?

There is no grand project for the Conservatives, nothing to make our nape-hairs prickle; or at least nothing that is plausibly deliverable by this party now. They can talk about a lowtax, shrunken state but they have little idea of how they would get there. There are other right-wing projects on offer, such as withdrawal from the European Union or the dismantling of the free National Health Service, but

tbey are not practical politics. The Conservatives are in serious danger of having the worst of both worlds, being attacked by Labour for their right-wing rhetoric - Blair is labelling them "extremists" in just the same way as President Clinton is going for the Republican leaders in Congress - while failing to deliver populist measures. In private many senior ministers seem frustrated and boxed-

in - and not surprisingly. Their last way out is to convince the country that the only grand pro-ject that is on offer, the Labour-Liberal programme for political change in Scotland and at Westminster, is borribly dangerous - that life under a ministry of administrative tinkerers may be dispiriting, but that it's better than rule by reformers. That would mean the Conservatives ceas-ing to think of themselves as a government and becoming, in effect, an opposition in office. On the strength of yesterday's programme, that may well be the plan.

worker's job satisfaction depends

that Latin Americans tend to be rather

of them face in their daily lives. By

ment, tend to be rather miserable.

data. Look at that human develop-ment index constructed by the UN.

People say they want

calm, but they drive

around with their

stereos blasting

came within a whisker of breaking up

Revealed: Diana the philosopher

On Monday, the Princess of Wales is due to appear on Panorama and talk about everything. Well, there is one thing she will not be talking about. She will not be talking about the Panorama interview. That is because she has already talked to us about that. Here is the interview I was gracious enough to accept from her recently. Now, your Highness (if I may

call you that), there is a sense in which the fact of this interview is more important than anything in the interview itself, is it not? I am afraid you will bave to explain that to me. You see, I am just a silly empty-beaded Sloane deep down, and t don't

understand abstract concepts. Is that really true? It's what everyone believes, which comes to the same thing. I've been told it so often I almost believe it myself. Was it not Hegel who said perceived truth and objective truth sometimes change places in the night?

I've no idea. Hegel? You have heard of Hegel? Strewth, this interview is going be harder work than I realised. Do you want to start again? Cut? Go for another take?

You seem to know the jargon. Look. I went into training for my Panorama interview four weeks before it happened. And I don't mean physical training. Everyone knows I work out at the gym to keep in physical trim. It doesn't seem to occur to them I might do the same intellectually. Seems unlikely? But every time I do an interview I go into intellectual training. But you have never done an

interview like this before.

I have never trained like this before. What was the question? I think I said, there is a sense in which the fact of this interview is more important than anything in the interview itself, is it not?

Was it not Oscar Wilde who said the value of the telephone more on relative pay than absolute pay. There are studies by other organwas merely the value of what two people have to say to each isations that compare happiness interother? Lord knows what he would have thought of the nationally. These show, for example, Internet.

Are you sure you are Diana? Have I come to the right palace? happier than one might expect, given the practical financial problems many To answer your question, yes, the fact of the interview is contrast, the Japanese, despite their low crime levels and low unemploymore important than anything l might say in it. Do you This sort of work shows just how remember the interview

careful we should be in concocting the between Prince Charles and Jonathan Dimblehy which started all this off? The country at the top - the best country in the world in which to live - is I remember Dimbleby and the prince sitting with an empty seat between them as if waiting for the Canada. And that is the country which opposition spokesman to turn up. I distinctly remember one of them saying they had committed adul-

tery with Camilla Parker Bowles. can't remember much more. My feelings exactly. People remembered much more about the interview as an event than as an exchange or expression of ideas, I learnt from that. I

learnt this could be stage-man-

aged as an event before it even appened. Hence the fuss with the palace, and the prince's hirthday, and the secrecy of the recording. The most important thing about this interview is the fact that I reserved the right to tell the palace.

But surely, if you told the palace you were going to do an interview on the BBC next week, they would fear the worst?

That was the whole idea.

They do fear the worst. You saw all the headlines: "Palace fury"; Prince goes bananas on hirthday"; "Queen hits the ceiling". None of this is because of what I have said. They don't know what I have said. It is only because I have said it and I didn't forewarn them. Do you think Charles asked my permission to talk to Dimbleby

I would guess not.
I should coco. So, do you know what the most important thing about the interview is?

The most important thing



about the interview is that even if it never goes out on the BBC on Monday, I have already gained as much favourable publicity from it as I possibly can. More, perbaps, Indeed, you could say that even if the interview never existed. I have got as much publicity out of it as possible. There is no need for it to go out now,

But it does exist. How do you know? The one thing that has come out of all this is that no one at Panoramia knew it existed. No one at the palace knew about it. No one on my staff knew about it. It is almost impossible to keep anything that secret - unless it doesn't exist.

But it has to go out on Monday, so it must exist. Not necessarily. Maybe the screening will be cancelled. Maybe, in return for that, the palace will give in to all my demands. Maybe I will get all I want and then reluctantly ask Panorama not to show a film -

which never existed. But, your Highness, you are not clever enough to think of an

idea like that, are you? You may very well think that. I couldn't possibly comment.

My God - you've been watch-ing Francis Urquhart.
The very man on whom I now model all my actions.

(More of this fascinating interview tomorrow; unless something more interesting turns up.)

nw ri-nd alf in-be ed Vir

Economists want to take quality as seriously as quantity. But measuring it is not always so simple

What really makes us happy?

Can you put a price on tranquillity? Or, more controversially, do peo-

ple really want it? The Government is trying to measure the environmental damage of major road schemes: to what extent people living near a road suffer as a result of additional noise, dirt and other pollution. Obviously, town bypasses, which reduce urban traffic, will tend to have the opposite effect. This is something of a first. The cost/ benefit studies done before all hig transport schemes do not seek to put a specific price on calm. Officialdom measures the time saved by people using new roads or railways, but cares less about the people who do not use them, vet are nevertheless affected.



It is an important breakthrough, for economists bave been tardy at measuring quality as opposed to quantity. The normal measure of standard of living is gross national product per head, which ignores a host of things that affect living standards, such as pollution and crime. Indeed, crime actually increases GDP. If someone breaks into a car and steals a radio, the cost of the replacement, plus the glass, both show as an addition to GDP. In the unlikely event of the per-petrator being caught, the costs of the trial, lawyers, social workers, police, prison officers and the like - thousands of pounds - all appear as additional economic activity and so are included in GDP. No one would argue that living standards were really higher as a result of this buman endeavour, but I suspect that few people instructing divorce lawyers are aware that one side-effect of their personal discomfort will be to boost the official figures for

the country's standard of living. There are a host of other examples of this sort of nonsense. The most extreme were the economic statistics produced in the former Soviet Union and its satellites, which simply looked at the quantity of output because that was what the central planning authority required. It did not matter whether the products were wanted by consumers or that they could not be sold on world markets; all that mattered was that they had been produced. When the Soviet Union collapsed, its GDP was





How do you measure happiness? Would anyone want the life of a Japanese broker when they could be Photographs: Matsumoto Tsugufumi/AP, Vanderiei Almeida/Reuters cing at the carnival in Rio de Janeiro?

measure the performance of much of the public sector in terms of quantity of input - numbers of hospital beds, size of classes - rather than in quality of output. (If medical advances enable shorter post-operative stays in hospital, a fall in the number of beds may he a sign of an improvement in med-

ical care, rather than the reverse.)
At the moment, the Department of Transport's plan bas the specific aim of measuring what economists would call the externalities of a project - the can the externances of a project - the costs that some activity, say the operations of a factory, impose on the rest of the community. It is a long-established principle that such offloading of costs should be taken into account, and that, for example, factories that polinte should have to "pay" for that in higher taxation. In practice it is not always possible to apply this, largely because there are no trustworthy

shown to be perbaps half the level that the official figures had suggested.

A hit of this "producerism" lingers even here in Britain. Thus we tend to reasonably scientific way by looking at differences in similar houses in calm and noisy locations. The market signals the value: it is not a question of

some researcher making up a figure.
But think where this leads. There are fringe pressure groups, such as the New Economic Foundation, which have attempted to adjust GNP figures to include quality of life, the running down of natural resources, and so on; the UN does a human development index, which adjusts GNP per head for education, bealth and other social variables; and there is a lot of high-quality economic work happening here at the London School of Economics on

what makes people bappy.
This LSE work has uncarthed some wonderful nuggets of information, such as the fact that there has been little or no rise in reported happiness in Europe or the US during the past 20

are (relatively) miserable. But the main thrust of economics is still to measure what is easily measured rather than what really matters. So we are either deluged with useless data about things we do not need to know, or fed biased figures designed to support the views of the pressure group that has compiled them. Governments twist statistics, too, but the good news from the Department of Transport is that this initiative might be the start of a more general move to develop

really matter. And what are they? I suggest there are two. The first is, what really does makes us happy? The second is, in what way might that be changing over time? On the first, we bave some knowledge as a basis. There are the points

more figures about the things that

less than a month ago, and which may well break up within the next 15 years. If Canada were so wonderful, why would the Quebecois want out? And so it is, to some extent, with tranquillity. People say they want alm, but drive around with stereos blasting though six speakers. For several millennia people have chosen to live in cities, despite all the observable unpleasantness of life there.

Given our deep hypocrisy, the best way of seeing what we really want is to look at what we do, not what we say. We say we want to keep the high street shops, yet we go to the supermarket on the outskirts. We say we value security. but some of us at least like creating a bit of chaos in our lives. Maybe what we really crave is balance, but that's not a state of affairs that can easily be expressed in a politician's sound-bite.

Is this changing over time? Human beings do not change - we have the same brains as the Romans. But I suspect that the giant demographic shifts now taking place will alter the balance of our society's aspirations. As the pro-portion of older people rises, older peoples' values will come to dominate more and more: calm may well come to be valued more highly than buzz.

One thing is certain, though. The more we measure the hard-to-measure, the more we will know about our selves and our aspirations. Underfrom the LSE work. Other conclusions standing ourselves may not make us are that unemployed people are any happier, but at least it gives us tremendously unhappy, and that a fewer excuses for being miserable.

LE CRUNCH?!



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Jack Holt

Jack Holt was one of the greatest small-hoat designers that Britain has ever had. In a career spanning over 60 years, a quarter of a million examples of Holt's 40-odd designs, including the Cadet. Merlin and Mirror dinghies, were huilt. Holt is the only British designer to have had three boots recognised with a classification from the In-Union. Latterly, the company he built up, Jack Holt Ltd, has switched the emphasis in its husiness from making boats to manufacturing and selling one of the higgest selection of boat fittings in the world.

Holt was born in Hammersmith, west London, the son of a panelbeater, in 1912. He first learnt about fine wood as an apprentice cabinet-maker: and in his boathuilding career he put his knowledge of the difference between good wood and very good wood to excellent use when it came to choosing spruce for a mast or timber for planking. But a hadly broken eg, sustained in an accident while riding pillion on a mo-torcycle, which left him in plaster to the thigh for a long period, put an end to his cahinet-making career when

he was still in his teens. He had sailed with the Sca Scouts as a boy, helping them with their boats, and bought his first boat, a 14ft dinghy, with his brother from the writer A.P. Herbert, a close neighbour on the Thames at Hammersmith. In 1929, when he was 17, he set up business in a hut under Hammersmith Bridge where his late great-uncle John Holt had repaired boats. When hudding his first boat. Candlelight, he did not have enough money to buy a brass tack, let alone the metal shanks which every other builder used on their masts to hoist the sail, Jack Holt solved the problem by making a groove in the wooden mast through which the thick side of the sail was pulled up. This "boltrope" groove was laughed at at the time but is now used

hy all small boats. On his first visit to Cowes in the 1930s - the time that we met - Holt competed in the championship for 14ft boats, one of which he had built. His entry was looked upon with sneers by the sailing establishment. Why should a boat-builder enter a National Championship where the clite were competing? And, to make it worse, his yard was

mersmith. Though Holt did not win he made a good placing. He was husy in the Thirties building other boats, designed for eager sailors. His boat in the 18ft class was an outstanding success as was his 12ft National

During the Second World War Holt built lifeboats and wooden copies of enemy planes for the Government, moving with his staff down the river, taking to a former oar-making works near Putney Bridge; it is still a Jack Holt shop, selling everything you could need for a boat including clothing. After the war, a small group

from Ranelagh Sailing Club. based on the same stretch of the Thames, commissioned Holt to design a small boat. It was called a Merlin and was accepted as a fine racing boat more simply made and more economic than other 14ft boats. The first Merlin is now on show at the Maritime Museum, in The Merlin was a success and

in 1947 Vachting World magazine asked Holt to design a children's boat. His design could be sailed by boys and girls aged 8 to 16. They were soon sailing them very proficiently and word of this small boat went all over the world. It was called the Cadet. In those early post-war years there was still a divide in the sailing world: with the yacht club for the gentry and the sailing club for the workers. But youngsters, in Holt's cheap and simple Cadet, did not know this and when Cadets from yacht club and sailing club were out on the same bit of water the class privilege was ignored. It was the first breakthrough in solving the class problem on the water. The boat was adopted by many countries and large regattas are held for this class every year.
The Cadet was followed by a

simple boat called Enterprise. commissioned for promotional purposes by the News Chronicle newspaper in 1955, with blue sads. This too became very popular and has world-wide fleets. The Asian Games, which are held every four years, between the Olympic Games, still use the Enterprise as their prime Class. Both the Cadet and the Enterprise were accepted by the International Yacht Racing Union and were recognised as International Classes. Then came an even simpler boat that people could make from kits themselves. It was called the



The Mirror dinghy, designed by Holt, of which 69,744 have been registered

newspaper titles, and it too was accepted as a World International Class. Manufactured as a kit by Bell Woodworking, it has been budt in greater num-

bers than any other of Holt's de-

signs; 69,744 Mirrors have been

registered to date. Other innovatory craft from Holt's design board included a single-handed boat, the Solo, and a longer one called the Hornet (1952), which was the first boat to have an aid to the crew in having a seat that extended over the water, the forerunner of what is now known as a trapeze. One of his very successful designs was the Gener-

Mirror, promoted by the Mirror al Purpose 14 (GP14, 1950), a very wholesome boat, well adapted to sailing, going fishing, with room for a picnic, and a good boat to row Holt also made time too to

race, both in Britain and in countries abroad. He was a first-class racing helmsman and won many championships, including three Merlin championships in that boat's early days. His boats were the first RYA Class boats to sail abroad: in Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands. Switzerland, and Poland. He was invited to Australia where about five of his classes were raced and he had the joy of his life going from centre to centre in Australia, each of which held special Jack Holt Regatta.

Photograph: Keystone

All these Holt boats could be built by any other builder, professional or amateur. Doing all this. Holt was a gentle man in every sense. I knew him for more than 60 years, and was his business partner for the past 50. and never heard a cross word or a refusal to help anyone.

Beecher Moore

John Lapworth Holt, boat designer: born London. 18 April 1912; married Iris Thornson (one daughter, and one son deceased); died Chichester . 14 November

Professor F.C. Tompkins

Frederick Tompkins was a physical chemist of great distinction whose contributions to the development of two research id state reactions, were matched by his long service as Secretary and Editor of the Faraday Society. Throughout his career he had the knack of attracting hright young students into his research group and, through a rigorous apprenticeship, turning them out as scientists who went on to occupy senior academic positions around the world. Thus his influence extended well beyond his own immediate contributions.

Tompkins's early studies of adsorption (the taking-up of gases by surfaces) on solid surfaces were on polar solids but, although this was always maintained as an interest, perhaps his best known contributions to adsorption studies were on met-al surfaces. Work initiated in the 1950s, hased on metal films deposited under stringent conditions and covering a range of different physical techniques, es-tablished his reputation firmly m the field of chemisorption on metals. Students and postdoctoral workers of his continued the development of this field. Tompkins was born in Yeovil, Somerset, in 1910, and was pleased to record that his scientific attainment at Yeovil Grammar School, which won him a County Scholarship to Bristol University, was matched by his talent as an essayist and as a pianist. As an undergraduate he was greatly influenced

by the teaching of William Garner and of John Lennard-Jones, and at the age of 20 he graduated, First Class, in chemistry and theoretical physics. He completed his PhD at Bristol with Garner, who first intro-duced him to both surface and

solid state chemistry.

After a period at King's Colege, London, as an Assistant Lecturer, he joined the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg. South Africa, where he spent nine formative years in research, first as Lecturer and then Senior Lecturer. He had married Catherine Macdougal in 1936, one year before leaving for South Africa, and it was in that country that their only

child, Josephine, was horn.
Pioneering work on the kinetics of the decomposition of solids was conducted in Pietermaritzburg with his student E.G. Prout, who was later promoted to the Chair of Physical Chemistry at the University of

Capc Town. The Prout-Tompkins equation became widely quoted in the field. It was there that Tompkins also initi-ated P.W.M. Jacobs into research, and it was Jacobs who, first at Imperial College, London, with Tompkins, and later at the University of Western Ontario, took up the baton in solid state chemical kinetics. Tompkins kept his contacts with South Africa, both through his ex-students and by recruiting researchers to his team, after returning to London.

In 1946 he returned to King's College as a Research Fellow, and after a year moved to a Readership at Imperial College where he stayed for the next 30 years until his retirement. Having published almost exclusively in the Transactions of the Faraday Society, the house journal of British and Commonwealth physical chemists, it was perhaps natural that the talented hut fastidious young scientist should also, on returning to Britain, be elected as Secretary and Editor of the Faraday Society, a post he held for the next 30 years. In 1955 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society and in 1959 to a Personal Chair at Imperial College.

The 1950s and 1960s proved to be a golden period for the Chemistry Department at Imperial College. The place nurtured four remarkably distinguished (and different) individuals, two of whom, Derek Barton and Geoffrey Wilkinson, were later to be awarded Nobel Prizes. From the time of his appointment in 1946 as Reader, Tompkins was the senior physical chemist, but when the college decided to create a Chair of Physical Chemistry in 1954. it turned to R.M. Barrer, who was then Professor of Physical Chemistry at Aberdeen. From this point on he Tompkins took no interest in policy matters involving the department or the college. Nevertheless, independently of each other, Barrer

able reputation for the college in the field of surface science. His contributions as Editor of the Faraday Society were re-markable. With just one assistant, for very many years he acted both as Editor and as desk editor, marking up every paper in green pen for the printer, Aberdeen Press, in his inimitable style - all unnecessary phrases suffering the heavy green line. Yet it was only when the Faraday Society was incorporated

and Tompkins created an envi-



Photograph: Godfrey Argent

1971 to form what is now the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the publication of the journal was taken over by the Society, that the cost-effectiveness of this one-man dynamo was fully realised. He served as President of the Faraday Division of the new amalgamated society in

Tompkins - Tommy to his friends and Fred (out of carshot) to his research group - was never an easy person so-cially, and while many of us enjoyed his dry, sharp wit, his ability as a raconteur and his patience, others did suffer from his sharp tongue. Strangely, although he instilled great vigour and creativity into his research, he showed, as Editor, little respect for developments in the-oretical chemistry, and the Transactions of the Faraday Socicty was, as a result, always rather strongly biased towards experiment. Despite his formal, ordered Victorian manner and his love for the loneliness. of gardening, he did show great warmth and encouragement to those whom he hoped to see succeed. He had, above all, the rare ability to create an environment in which the best research could flourish.

David King

Frederick Clifford Tompkins, chemist born Yeavil, Somerset 29 August 1910; Assistant Lecturer, King's College London 1934-37, ICI Fellow 1946-47; Seuior Lec-turer, University of Natal 1937-46; Reader in Physical Chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology 1947-59, Professor 1959-77 (Emeritus); Editor and Secretary of Faraday Division of the Chemical Society (formerly the Faraday Society) 1950-77, President 1978-79; FRS 55; married 1936 Catherine Macdougal (one daughter): died Portsmouth, Hampshire 5 November 1995.

Dr Stephen MacKeith

Stephen MacKeith was a consultant psychiatrist with an almost matchless breadth of experience, obtained through taking a new appointment came consultants; Stephen took roughly every seven years in a fil-year career that took him all

over Britain. MacKeith was an idealist especially interested in the social aspects of medicine and was for many years an active member uf the Keppel Club, with a membership concerned with social issues. He unstintingly sought, hy using forward planning and innovation, to improve the spheres of medicine with which he came into contact, both in psychiatry and in health education. He was interested in helping the less popular subspecialities such as child psychiatry and learning disability. and also encouraged a scheme for the reintroduction to medicine of women who had left practice to hring up a family.

MacKeith was born in 1906 into a medical family with a general practitioner father and three hrothers, all of whom bea scholarship at St Mary's Hos-

was in the best tradition of the pre- and post-war mental hospital. A flair for administration led to two successive posts as Deputy Medical Superintendent, at Hatton Hospital, Warwick, and Graylingwell Hospital, Chichester, the latter being interrupted by the Second World War, in which he served with the Royal Army Medical Corps as a War Office adviser and as a command psychiatrist. He saw action in North Africa and Italy and was Psychiatric Adviser to Allied Force HQ under General Eisenhower. For his war service he was appointed OBE. After the war, he returned to the post he had vacated to join the

2,000 patients.

pital Medical School, in London. MacKeith's clinical career

RAMC but was then appointed as Physician Superintendent at Napsbury Hospital, m St Albans, which then had care of over MacKeith next moved to a

nurely clinical consultant post in Norwich, where he developed a highly successful private practice and during which he was also seconded to the World Health Organisation for two periods, advising on psychiatric services and hospitals in the Far East. This was followed by a further seven years as Medical Superintendent at Warlingham Park Hospital, in Surrey, further enhancing its well-deserved reputation as a standard-bearer of psychiatric innovation.

Perhaps MacKeith's most far-reaching contribution came in 1964, when he moved to Hampshire, this time combining a clinical post at Knowle. outside Southampton, with that of Regional Tutor in psychiatry.

He established and developed the Wessex Regional School of Psychiatry and painstakingly organised one of the first comprehensive day-release courses in postgraduate psychiatry, initially for the Diploma of Psy-chological Medicine and later for the Membership of the newly formed Royal College of Psychiatrists, of which he was a

Founder Fellow. On Mackeith's retirement in 1973, the Regional School and its courses were in a strong position, when taken over by the academic department of psychiatry in the newly formed Medical School at Southampton, where MacKeith's legacy is maintained to this day.

MacKeith started on his re-

tirement from psychiatry a new career in health education in Southampton This took him to Western Australia, where he was for five months a visiting teaching Fellow at the Perth Institute

of Technology. In 1980-81, he spent 10 months in the United States, lecturing at the Stanford University Medical Centre and the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Alabama, Further trips to universities in Australia followed in 1984: Two years carlier, he had given up his work in health education. thereafter working as an Honorary Visiting Fellow to the Department of Psychology al outhampton University.

Mackeith was always interested in the imaginary world of children. In co-operation with Robert Silvey he studied and wrote on the private worlds of children, for which MacKeith coined the word "paracosm", and he co-wrote, with David Cohen. The Development of the Imagination: the private worlds of childhood (1990).

As a colleague he was a rewarding companion, with a fund of stories and a gift for listen-

Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Si-

mon Brown, Lord Justice Saville);

reached or judgment was giv-

family should cease as it might

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cision to strike out N's claim

aged 19, claimed damages for

personal injury caused by the

N, a Down's syndrome girl

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default of defence.

25 October 1995

ing which made him always available for advice. As such he was the ideal trainer in an apprenticeship system, teaching by example the wrinkles of clinical psychiatry with as much acumen and enthusiasm as he would the administrative inspection of a long-stay mental hospital ward. He was intensely, hut not intrusively, interested in the progress of his junior colleagues and friends. Even after his final retirement, he remained active. studying the history of military psychiatry, and writing poetry. His marriage to Frances, daugh-

ter of the eminent psychotherapist Mdlais Culpin, was exceptionally fortunate and they celebrated their golden wedding in 1988. For many years Stephen MacKeith had attended the meetings of the Society of Friends in Winchester hut only became one of their members

about three years ago. John Grimshaw



Stephen Alexander MacKeuls, psychiatrist: born Southampton 20 September 1906; Consultant Psychiatrist, Hellesden kHospital, Norwich 1950-57; Physician Superintendent, Warlingham Park Hospital, Surrey 1957-64: Consultant Psychiatrist, Knowle & Southumpton Group Hospitals 1964-67; married 1938 Frances Culpiu (three sons, three daughters); died Winchester 10 September 1995.

Iri Maruki

In his excellent obituary of Iri Maruki [2] October]. James Kirkup writes of "the general indifference and ignorance" about "The finest artistic protests ever made against the folly of war". writes Peter van den Dungen. What was true in the 1950s is to a large extent still true today. particularly outside Japan.

But this situation would have changed dramatically if the nomination of Iri and Toshi Maruki for this year's Nobel Peace Prize had been successful. It would have been the first time (lung overdue) that artistic efforts for peace had been honoured in this way.

It is thus a pity that the article made no mention of the fact that the Marukis did not confine their work to the theme of Hiroshima but expanded it to include other critical experiences of the century such as the extermination of the Jews in Auschwitz and the rape of Nanking by Japanese soldiers in 1937

Births. Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

FRANKLIN: Aaron, on 9 November 1995, a son for Alan and Gayle, at Burton-upon-Trent. OLLINGTON: On 14 November, to Sophic and Crispin, a son, Alexandre Jean,

Announcements for Gazette DIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS IBirths, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memo-riagories, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriami should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent. 10 the Gazene Emily, the Independent I Cauda Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 Stil., Iclephoned to 0171-293 2011 (24-hour onswering machine 0171-293 2012) or fixed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at \$6.50 a line IVAT extrat. OTHER Gazene onnouncements Instices, functions. Forth-coming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing for faved and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a daytime leighbone number

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Buke of Edinburgh, Patron, Outward Bound Trust, visits Oakdale Bakeries Leeds, and voits State Changes Hospital, Leeds, Princess Alexandra, Patron. Bournemouth Orchestras, attends a Gala Concert to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, at St James's Palice.

Changing of the Guard Guards majoris the Oueen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30an provided by the Welch Guards.

Birthdays Professor Chinua Achebe, novelist,

poet and educationalist, 65: Mr Peter Ainsworth MP, 39; Mr Michael Billington, author and broadcaster, 56; Miss Lisa Bonet, actress, 28; Mr Frank Bruno, boxer, 34; Mr Willie Carson, jockey, 53: Mr Tony de Lueuw, composer, 69; Sir John Hanson, director-general, British Coun-cil, 57; Sir Colin Marshall, Chairman and Chief Executive, British Airways, 62: Miss Joanna Pettet, actress, 51 Mr Griff Rhys Jones, actor and writer, 42; Sir Giles Shaw MP, 64; Mr John Stenhouse, former insurance broker, 87; Canon Herbert Stuart, Canon Emeritus, Lincoln Cathedral, 69: Sir Edward Tomkins, former ambassador, 80: Sir Magdi Yacoub, cardiothoracie surgeon, 60: Professor Michael Zander, Professor of

Anniversaries

Law. LSE, 63.

Births: Tiberius, Roman emperor, 42 BC: William John Thoms, founder and editor of Nones and Queries. 1885; John Bright, political reformer, 1811; Alphonse-Marie Léon Daudet, author, 1867; Paul Hindemith, viola player and composer, 1895; Sir Oswald Ernald Mosley, Fascist leader, 1896. Poetter Budie Wierbelder. 1896. Deaths: Perkin Warbeck, pretender to the English throne, exe-cuted 1499; James Ferguson, astronomer, 1776; John Watter, founder of the Times, 1812; William Clark Gable, actor, 1960; William Holden (William Franklin Beedle). actor. 1981: Arthur Bowden Askey, comedian, 1983. On this day: Westinster Bridge was formally opened. 1750: Washington was captured by British troops, 1776; Paul I became Tsar of Russia. 1796; the Holborn Empire. London, opened as Weston's Music Hall, 1857; the Suez Canal was formally opened at Port Said, 1869;

Wyndham's Theatre, London. opened, 1899; the first cartoon film. The Enchanted Drawing, by the artist James Stuart Blackton. appeared, 1900; following a period of rampant inflation, a new currency system was introduced in Germany, 1923. Today

is the Feast Day of St Afan, St Agnes of Assist St Edmund of Ahingdon, St Eucherius of Lyons, St Gertrude of Helfta, St Margaret of otland. St Mechtildis of Heifta and St Nikon "Metanocite". Lectures National Gallery: Mari Griffith.

"The Loves of the Gods (iii): Frag-onard, Psyche showing for Sisters her Victoria and Albert Museum: Diana Perry-Aldrich, "The Renaissance Interior ti)", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: fain Dickson Gill. Constable, Turner and the Sky".

British Museum: Paul Collins. Monarchs of Mesopotamia: Sumerian", 1.15pm. National Portrail Gallery (Royal

Astronomical Society Lecture Series): Dr Allan Chapman, "George Airy (1801-92)", 1.10pm. King's College London, London WC2: Professor Joyce Hill. "Confuons and Contradictions: the litaniae majores & minores in Rome. Francia and Anglo-Saxon England".

RIBA Architecture Centre, London Wt: Will Alsop, "The Relocation of the ICA", 7pm. History of Art): Dr Paul Taylor, "Piero della Francesca, Flagellation".

Royal Over-Seas League, London SW1: Godfrey Howard and Mara Walsh, "The Use and History of the

Foundation for Science and Technology

Lord Botterworth was in the chair at a lecture and dinner discussion held yesterday evening by the Foundation for Science and Technology at the Royal Society, London W1. Mr Robert Margetts, Professor Arthur Francis and Mr Alastair Macdonald spoke on "UK Industrial Revival -the Engineering Community's Action for Engineering".

Appointments

Mr Roger Hart, to be Ambassado (non-resident) to the Democratic Re-public of Sao Tome and Principe. Mr Marcus Hope, to be Ambasado to the Republic of Zaire.

Mrs Rosy Nasreen Mannion, to be a full-time Immigration Adjudicator designated a Special Adjudicator. Mr S.R. Davie, to be a member of the Council on Tribunals. Mr Glenn Clifford Brasse, to be a district judge of the Principal Registry

of the Family Division. Mr David Michael Meredith, to be a Provincial Stipendiary Magistrate for the Leicester Commission Area, based at Leicester Magistrates' Mr John Chalstrey, has been ad-

mitted as Lord Mayor of London. Mrs Justice Hogg, to be a Bencher Mr Adrian White and Mr Richard Eyre, have been appointed Gover-nors of the British Broadcasting Corporation

live of the Makolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children. Mr Laurence Keen, re-elected President, British Archaeological Asso-Mr David Turner, to be Chairman of

Mrs Diane Yeo, to be Chief Execu-

Later claim against council not barred LAW REPORT Council; Court of Appeal (Lady

ages, the damages included compensation for N's loss and alternatively, applying the prin-ciple of res judicata. N's claim The practice whereby proceedings against a council were brought by a council tenant should not he allowed to go alone but settlement was ahcad.

The judge rejected the first argument but struck out the en on behalf of the tenant's claim on the grounds that N's claim should have been advanced at the same time as her The Court of Appeal al-lowed an appeal by N, suing by her stepfather and next friend, mother's and since N was entirely dependent on her mother to authorise litigation, mother and daughter could be regarded as the same party to the actions which raised virtually identical issues. Benet Hymer QC and Stephen Cor-

tle (Dawse & Co) for N; Ian Lewis

council's negligence and breach of statutory duty. She alleged (Christopher Hinde) for the council. that having lived in a council Lord Justice Simon Brown said that the plea of res judicata house let to her mother in a state of disrepair and dampness. encompassed two distinct she suffered recurrent bouts of forms of estoppel: cause of action estoppet and issue estop-pel. Cause of action estoppet chest and upper respiratory in-fection. Nobtained judgment in arose where the cause of action The council then applied to in the latter proceedings was set aside the judgment and identical to that in the earlier proceedings between the same strike out N's claim on the basis that in an earlier netion parties and involving the same

hrought by her mother which subject matter. had been settled by the counissue estoppel represented cil undertaking to repair the an extension of the doctrine of house and paying £15,000 dam- res judicata to include a bar on

the subsequent litigation not only of all decided issues in the carlier proceedings hut also every point which might have been brought forward.

The plea of res judicata applied only where the cause of action or issue was and remained between the same parties or their predecessors in title. It was impossible to argue that N's dependence on her mother created a sufficient nexus between them that they should be regarded effectively

as the same party.
Furthermore Order III, rules 10 and 11 of the County Court Rutes provided that where money was claimed by a person under disability, no settlement, compromise or payment should be valid without the approval of the court.

The principle that an unlitigated monetary claim was barred if it could have been advanced and established in cartier proceedings could not be extended to those not party to the earlier proceedings. The doctrine of rev judicata had no application in the present case. However lawyers and their clients should not be encouraged to follow the course

the public interest to have a single action in which the claims of all affected members of the household were included rather than a multiplicity of actions. To some extent, the remedy tay with the council: when faced with a tenant's claim, it could inquire whether other claims too were to be advanced.

The argument that the settlement of the mother's action included compensation for N's loss faced the difficulty that the matter was not dealt with under Order 1tt, rules 10 and 11.

Serious problems were cre-

ated by the practice of proceedings being brought by the tenant alone and yet settlement being reached on behalf of the whote family. That practice wholly ignored the effect of Order 10, rules 10 and 11 and might disadvantage both the defendant and those under disability. The defendant lost the protection of the settlement or judgment against future claims. The practice subverted the function of Order 10 which was designed to safeguard the interests of those under disahility. The practice should

Lord Justice Saville and Lady Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Ying Hui Tan. Barrister

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INBRIEF

Telecom Italia faces challenge

France Telecom and Olivetti, the struggling Italian computer company, are to join forces to compete against Telecom Italia in the mainstream Italian telephone market. The companies, backed by Bell Atlantic and France Telecom's partners in the Atlas joint venture, Deutsche Telekom and Sprint, believe they could win revenues of up to £2bn over five years. The announcement marks one of the first fruits of the controversial Atlas alliance grouping continental Europe's two largest telecoms operators.

Bell Cablemedia revenue rise

Bell Cablemedia, the UK cahle company whose shares are listed in New York, said revenues in the nine months to September totalled £38.9m, up from £12.4m last time, while losses nearly doubled to £27.8m, reflecting the costs of huilding the network. Quarter-on-quarter, churn rates (the rate at which subscribers disconnect) had dropped for cable to 31.5 per cent from 38 per cent, and for telephony to 17.6 per cent from 19.5 per cent.

Unigate selling Dutch stake

Unigate, the dairy and fresh foods group, is to sell its 29 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch producer of infant milk and clinical nutrition products. The stake has a market value of £329m and will be sold to institutional investors rather than a single huyer. It will crase Unigate's £134m of dehts and give the company the firepower to fund further acquisitions in its core food and distribution businesses.

Investment Column, page 26

Fisons chief stepping down

Stuart Wallis, chief executive of Fisons, is expected to step down as a director in the next week or two. The move comes in the wake of last month's £1.8bn takeover by the French-owned pharmaceuticals rivals Rhone-Poulenc Rorer. With Paddy Linaker, the chairman, he will stay on at Fisons until the end of the year to ensure, among other things, that directors leaving the group are treated fairly and receive adequate compensation. Mr Wallis could be entitled to compensation of about £470,000, while netting around £1.23m profits from share options.

Eurotunnel turnover grows

Eurotunnet said its third quarter turnover, excluding rail fees of £24.7m from the minimum usage contract, was £81.265m, against £3.994m a year earlier. Turnover in the nine months to September is £151.8m, up from £6.29m, but the figures are not strictly comparable because of the gradual build-up of services since the tunnet opened in the second quarter of 1994.

Midshires plans life venture

Birmingham Midsbires, one of the UK's top 10 building societtes, is set to faunch its own life company when its de with Sun Life comes to an end in May. The society, based in Wolver-hampton, has not decided whether to farm out the administration or enter into a joint venture wih Sun Life.

Cadbury panel candidate

Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman of ICl, is on the point of accepting The chairmanship of the panel on corporate governance, which is to take over the work of the Cadhury Committee, an official involved in setting up the new panel confirmed.

High fliers: A code-sharing agreement would create one of the biggest airline alliances in aviation history

BA and American seek skies pact

RUSSELL HOTTEN

British Airways is negotiating with American Airlines about a code-sharing deal that would create one of the biggest alliances in aviation history. The talks, which started last

April, have been given a new impetus by the replacement of BA's strong-willed chief execu-tive, Sir Colin Marshall, by Robert Ayling.

A personality clash between

Sir Colin and American's equally tough chairman, Rohert Crandall, was said to be a potential stumbling block to any agreement. "A deal with Sir Colin would not be impossible, but Crandall is an admirer of Ayling and likes what be is doing at BA," said an American source close to American. "An agreement with BA would be Crandall's swan song."

Code sbaring involves the merger of two airlines flights on one ticket, allowing them to book passengers with each oth-er. The talks centre on bow BA would benefit from access to America's services to South America. American would want to be able to books its passengers onto BA's Heathrow and European network.

The two airlines have discussed possible equity stakes, though there is said to be much hard negotiating still to do. A broad outline agreement is close, but a formal announcement may take up to 12 months,

the Independent has been told. A hig hurdle to a deal is the implications for USAir, with which BA has a code-share agreement, and 24.6 per cent stake. American Airline sources said US transport officials have indicated that any deal that threatened the future of USAir

would be resisted. USAir has been the subject of takeover talk, with United Airlines a likely hidder. American also said it might enter the bidding if a rival made a formal offer. But on Monday United said it was no longer interested in huying USAir.

BA has admitted that the question of USAir ownership opened up several options, including links with other US carriers. Sources confirmed last night vesterday that talks with



Robert Crandall: Previously

American began long before United's interest in USAir was ment on any talks with Ameri-

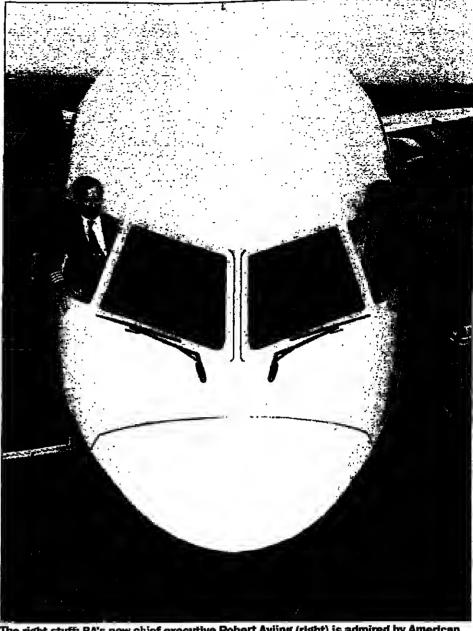
Industry experts remained sceptical about any such agree-ment being reached because of the complexity of bringing to-gether two of the world's largest airlines. Keith McMullan, of analysts Avmark International said American had held talks with European airlines before, but they had come to nothing.
"Robert Crandall has been a critic of code sharing," he said. But it is understood Mr Crandall and the American hoard now accept that as the industry moves towards greater code

sharing, it must move with it. American is the world's largest airline, with 647 air-craft and sales of \$14bn (£9bn), and there are few operators that could provide the sort of reciprocal benefits it would find attractive through code sharing.

But the company would dear-ly like to offer its US passengers onward flights to Europe and beyoud by using BA's Heathrow services as the bub. In return, BA would like an entry into the growing South American passenger market, which has be largely untapped by European carriers, except by Spain's Iberia.

An executive at a rival air-

line said yesterday he would expect America's rivals in the US to protest loudly against any deal as anti-competitive.



The right stuff: BA's new chief executive Robert Ayling (right) is admired by American

Resignation of Middleton shocks Lloyd's

DAVID HELLIER and JOHN EISENHAMMER

shocked the world's largest insurance market by resigning as chief executive of Lloyd's of London two years before his contract was due to expire.

His resignation comes at a critical stage in Lloyd's fight for survival, embroiled in complex negotiations over its £6bn reconstruction and renewal programme. Alongside David Rowland, chairman, Mr MiddleIon was lyncb-pin of Lloyd's attempts to restore its battered credibility, and negotiate a settlement with the thousands of loss-making names who have ravaged the insurer with litigation and refusals to cover their

Mr Middleton, 55, is going to become chief executive for the UK and Europe at Salomon Brothers, the international investment bank, in London. He will be replaced by Ron Sandler, 43, appointed earlier this year to implement the reconstruction

and renewal programme. In a blunt statement last night, Lloyd's said Mr Middleton had resigned. It gave no reason for his abrupt departure. Mr Sandler said: "I think the timing is certainly not what all of us would have wished, hut it is up to us to get on with the job." Mr Middleton informed Mr

Rowland last Friday. In August, Mr Middleton said that he intended to stay on until the recovery of the trou-

ble insurance market was complete. He said then: "We lhe and the chairman, David Rowland Peter Middleton last night have stated that we are not going to leave until we have done all that we bave set out to do: and we will leave in an orderly fashion." He said this was unlikely to he before 1997.

In the past 12 months there have been increasing rumours in the market of a deteriorating relationship between Mr Middleton and Mr Rowland.

This is the second recent high-profile departure. Rosalind Gilmore, former head of Lloyd's regulation, suddenly quit after just a year in the job.

Mr Middleton was unavailable for comment last night, but said in a formal statement issued by Lloyd's: "I am sad to be leaving Lloyd's after three challenging and enjoyable years. Working with David Rowland has been the most rewarding business experience of my career."

Mr Sandler was recruited by Lloyd's in March this year as a director of special projects. He is said to have played a key role in the development of the Lloyd's reconstruction plan. published in May.

Sir Lawrie Magnus, of Phoenix Securities, who was involved in the introduction to Lloyd's of corporate capital, said: "Ron Sandler is held in high regard by practitioners in the market and by most corporate capital providers." But his departure was deplored by some names who supply capital.

Comment, page 25

Pearson in talks to buy SelecTV

MATHEW HORSMAN

Pearson is in talks with management at SelecTV, the independent production company, that could lead to a hid within weeks, sources close to the negotiations said.

Separately, the media and information giant yesterday announced it bad clinched a \$40m deal to buy ACI, a US television programming supplier owned by eight leading US independent producers.

Sources close to SelecTV said talks were continuing between its chairman, Alan McKeown, and representatives from Pearson about the terms of a public offer for SelectTV shares. However, it is believed several other potential bidders discussed a side deal with MAI chase of ACI, which has long

remain in the frame, and that the two sides remain far apart

Mr McKeown, founder of SelecTV, owns about 7 per cent, and is directly involved in the negotiations on behalf of the board. He is expected to recommend an offer from Pearson only at a large premium to the current market price of 31.5p, which values the company at about £45m.

Other potential stumbling blocks include the terms on which Mr McKcown would continue to work with the company after a sale. Daily Mail and General Trust, which owns 14 per cent of SelecTV, is not directly involved in the negotia-

tions at this stage.
Pearson is believed to have

media and financial services a new source of programming company buy SelecTV's 19 per cent stake in Meridian Broadcasting, the ITV licence holder controlled by MAI. Pearson is thought to be at-

that would see Lord Hollick's been rumoured, gives Pearson

tracted by SelecTV's programming library and its independent production operations, which would be folded into Pearson TV. It has no interest, it is un-

derstood, in the company's cahle channel.

SelecTV makes such hit programmes as Birds of a Feather, Lovejoy and Love Hurts.

Pearson TV, run by Greg Dvke, the former LWT chief, already owns Thames Television

and Grundy Worldwide, mak-ers of Neighbours. The pur-

der for Channel 5, in which Pearson has a stake. ACI supplies 20 per cent of the made-for-TV movies shown promised to funnel their pro

revenues and access to an ex-

tensive library. ACI also has a supply deal with Channel 5 Broadcasting, the winning bid-

on US networks, and also huys programming from overseas. The eight key producers have gramming through ACI for at least five years.

Unaudited figures show an operating profit of \$2.8m in the year to September 1995, before costs associated with the sale Io Pearson, on revenues of \$30.7m. Pearson is paying 24.5m in cash and loan notes, and another \$20m over seven years.

Hambros makes changes at top

JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

Hambros yesterday announced a management shake-up, staff culs, and a re-focusing on its classic merchant banking activities in a drive to restore profitability and repair its deteriorating image in the market.

Sir Chips Keswick, formerly chairman and chief executive of the bank, moves up to the newly created position of group chief executive, while Michael Sorkin, the driving force behind the changes, hecomes deputy chairman of the bank and head of the management committee implementing the new strate-

Reporting a £7.7m pre-tax loss, after a heavy £23.5m bad

debt provision and £8.8m re-structuring costs, Hambros said agency husinesses. two other businesses tacked alongside it." said Sir Chins. vesterday it will be cutting back its ordinary corporate lending operations to concentrate on specialist husiness, while strengthening its corporate finance and investment man-

agement activities. Coming on top of the closure sale of its Australian stockbroking business, the planned reductions in corporate lending and treasury and derivatives operations will result in a 10 per cent reduction in banking staff, currently totalling1,200.

The group structure is to be clarified, bringing the develop-ment capital husiness into the bank, while emphasising the distinetness from the separately

agency husinesse Hambros said it intends to

build up its corporate finance department under Nigel Pantling, including further hirings. The bank is also assessing its options with a view to increasing its £8bn of funds under management by "several of Hambros Clearing and the billions" of equity funds, either by acquisition or joint-venture, but said it is not yet talking to any potential target.

We are saying to the world at large, we have two businesses and you seem not to understand which is the more important, the merchant bank or the estate agencies. We are making absolutely clear that merchant banking is the heart of the business, and there are at 202p.

alongside it," said Sir Chips. IBCA, the hank credit rating agency, yesterday downgraded Hambros' individual ratings from from B/C to C, citing the deterioration in performance.

The new strategy was ac-companied by a mild reshuffle. although no new faces were brought in. Sir Chips and Michael Sorkin are now in the driving seat, assisted by Charles Perrin, who becomes chief executive of the bank. The main victim is Christopher Sporborg, who relinquishes his job as chief executive of Hambro group investments to become chairman of the estate agency and insurance husinesses

The share price closed up 9p

Economy: The prospect of lower borrowing costs in the UK and America knocks currencies but boosted bonds and shares

Pound plunges to all-time low

PAUL WALLACE Feonomics Editor

The pound tumbled to an alltime low as a rise in unem-ployment and fall in retail sales ed to mounting worries about a cut-and-run Budgel and an early fall in interest rates.

The trade-weighted exchange rate fell from 83.3 to 82.6, just below its previous all-time low of 82.7 on 27 June. Sterling weakened against the dollar but the main fall was against the Deutschemark. It dropped by three pfennig to end the day at 2.1847, only a pfennig higher than its all-time low of 2.1765 on 9 May.

"Given the political climate

and the proximity of the Bud-

get, foreign investors have gone

on a buying strike," said Kit

Juckes, currency strategist with

NatWest Markets, "There is a

general nervousness in the mar-

ciently rigorous Budget and that interest rates will be cut before long." Unemployment rose by 200

in October, the first increase since August 1993, and in marked contrast with the City expectation of a fall of 12,000. The rise took the jobless count 1.0

exchange rain

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kets that you'll get an insuffi- to 2,265,500, 8.1 per cent of the workforce. Weakness in industry appears to have been mainly responsible. While the johless count continued to fall across much of the country, this was offset by increases in the industrial regions of the East wiidlands, the North-west and

Wales. Employment in manu-

facturing fell in September by However, official statisticians warned that the increase was the result of an unusually large seasonal adjustment and was subject to revision, just as the provisional rise in July turned in the event into a small fall. The unadjusted figure fell by almost 80,000 as graduates who had come onto the count in the summer got jobs or moved back to higher education.

six years and placements, Budget.

helped by a national advertising campaign, reached an all-time high. Underlying carnings remained flat in September at 3.25 per cent and those in manufacturing edged down to 4.25 per cent in both August and

September. Hopes that retail sales would revive in October were dashed by figures showing a small monthly fall of 0.t per cent. The annual growth in retail sales, using the more accurate threemonth on three-month rate, stackened to just 0.1 per cent. its lowest for three and a half years. The decline in sales was concentrated in clothing and footwear stores, which saw a fadl of 1.4 er cent in October. Sales in food stores also dropped by (L4 per cent.

The British Retail Consor-More encouragingly, new va-cancies were at their highest for tax-cutting package in the

Fears of US interest rate cut hurts dollar

DIANE COYLE

Economics Correspondent A drop in industrial output for

the first time in six months fanned hopes of an early cut in US interest rates, even though the Federal Reserve took no action after its policy meeting yesterday.

The prospect of lower interest rates in Europe as well as in the US took European bonds and shares higher vesterday. The higgest advances were in France, where the government announced a far tougher-thanexpected supplementary budget. which could allow an easing in interest rates.

German markets also reacted to a fall in the Bundesbank's reportate by two basis points to 3.98 per cent, hinting

at further cuts in key interest rates. The Bundesbank council meets Inday hut is not expectcd to act immediately.

larmac swaps

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Interest rate expectations, along with uncertainty over the outcome of the stalemate between President Bill Clinton and Congress over the hudget. weakened the dollar vesterday, Investors are worried about the danger of a default on US

government debt.
David Bloom, US economist for brokers James Capel, said: There is a growing risk that the two sides will turn the budget into an election issue." Politi-cal uncertainty could also knock momentum out of the economy.

The Fed last cut interest rates, by a quarter point to 5.75 per cent, in July. Its next meeting is on 19 December.

business



With the interests of different groups of [Lloyd's] names so at variance with each other, settlement requires a brilliant financier, a master tactician ... and a diplomat of the first

Lloyd's resignation adds to risks in row with names

Peter Middleton's resignation as chief | sec new solutions, None the less, many will | industry, it will be seen as a watershed. Have executive of the Lloyd's of London | see Mr Middleton's departure as a deepen ing hoisted the For Sale sign over its house. insurance market could hardly have come at a worse time for the embattled organisation. Lloyd's is now at a highly sensitive point in negotiations about a settlement with its lossmaking names. Their successes in the courts over the last year have transformed the balance of power. Lloyd's must reach a deal or face terminal decline.

There has been and remains a very real risk, in the absence of a settlement, that at some point the Department of Trade and Industry will find it impossible to continue to issue Lloyd's with a solvency certificate. That is the nuclear outcome but it is one that tooks all too possible for this deeply troubled organisation. There will be some in this intensely comhative market who will greet Mr Middleton's departure with relief. Ros-alind Gilmore, the head of regulation who left recently after a year in the job, kept silent about the reasons for her departure but it would surprise nobody if one of her reasons was the difficulty of coping with the old guard that still exists at Lloyd's despite all it has been through.

Mr Middleton, despite his protestations yesterday that he enjoyed working with David Rowland, the chairman, has had a tense enough relationship with him. When in public together, this was painfully visible. The very difficulty of the situation could be a good enough reason for bringing in a new | ball rolling on the much-needed consolidachief executive, since a fresh pair of eyes may tion of the UK's beleaguered construction enue will bring rich bottom-line rewards.

ing of the crisis.

With the interests of different groups of names so at variance with each other, settlement requires a brilliant financier, a master tactician and a diplomat of the first order. Ron Sandler, Mr Middleton's replacement, was responsible for setting up Equitas, the financial vehicle at the heart of the rescue plan, and there is little doubt that he has the technical qualifications for the job.

On the other hand, it was Mr Middleton who appeared to be pushing earlier than his chairman for the much-needed renewal of attempts to resurrect the settlement with names that failed in late 1993. And it is he who knows the details of the tortuous negotiations and the sensitivities of all the individuals with whom he bas dealt.

A genuine win-win deal

When two companies describe a deal as a "win-win situation" you can normally be sure that at least one of the parties is either being disingenuous or has missed something. Yesterday's unexpected asset swap between Wimpey and Tarmac, how-ever, appears to come close to finding the corporate philosopher's stone. If it sets the

ing hoisted the For Sale sign over its housing operation in August, Tarmac came in for a welter of not unreasonable criticism. As a forced seller, it would be pushed to achieve net assets of just over £300m, let alone the £400m it was privately hoping for. The cash would then burn a hole in its pocket, be spent in a hurry and unwisely; even worse from the City's point of view, it would dilute

earnings. Exchanging the division for Wimpey's quarrying and contracting arms addresses all those issues and leaves its partner smiling as well. At a stroke, Wimpey becomes the dominant force in UK housing with a market share twice its nearest rivals. Beazer and Barratt Both companies have also neatly avoided the twin likelihoods of having to sell assets at a discount and paying a premium when they come to spend the proceeds.

Which will be the long-term winner is a harder call. Wimpey faces a stagnant domestic market and a massive extra cash drain on its resources - it will cost £200m a year just to replace the land it builds on. Tarmac, by contrast, has increased its exposure to a road programme the Government is showing increasing signs of abandoning, together with the supply of rocks and blacktop that depends on it. On the other hand, with £1.75hn of turnover to play with, the potential for profit growth is large. Squeezing even a little more margin out of that scale of rev-

peared over the horizon. Compared with a soaring stock market, the sector has been a damp squib, underperforming the All Share by 15 per cent. For the 1990s so far as a whole, building shares have underperformed the market by a half. Now that Wimpey and Tarmac have actually done something to correct the obvious overcapacity problem in these industries, rather than just talk about it, perbaps others wilt follow suit.

Rail link shows hopeful signs

The charade that is the Government's attempt to persuade the private sector to huild and operate a high-speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel seems to have taken a turn for the better. The Department of Transport has brought in a BP secondec to adjudicate over the final stages of selection for the £3bn project. Ministers took the view that only someone with private sector negotiating skills would be up to the task of exacting the best possible deal from the two remaining bidders, Eurorail (a consortium of BICC, Trafalgar House, Seeboard, HSBC and NatWest) and London & Continental (Virgin. Ove Arup and Becbtel among others).

The Government is due to announce its preferred bidder before Christmas. For one day service.

It has been a dismal year for the building industry as the hoped-for recovery disaplation, while the contractors, determined to avoid the cost overruns and other pitfalls that bedevilled Eurotunnel, want at least a year of detailed design and engineering planning before even putting a spade to the

The private sector adjudicator is John Hawkshaw, provided gratis by BP for as long as it takes to complete the negotiation. This is being conducted in almost comic fashion with the Eurotunnel team taking the morning session and the rivals the afternoon. The bour's lunch hreak hetween is thought sufficient to prevent the two from meeting. The Government's purpose is to ensure that the tevel of subsidy (anything between £1bn and £2bn) is as small as possible. But there is a variable - the degree of risk that is assumed by the winning bidder. The higher degree of risk assumed by the successful hidder, the higher the level of subsidy demanded.

None of this means the high-speed link is ctually going to get built. Post-Eurotunnel, bankers are doubly cautious in backing infrastructure projects of this sort. So are the equity investors that both consortia intend to tap. Even so, prospects for this hadly needed venture now look better than at any stage in the last five years. With the more diligent approach to costs being adopted by att involved, as well as the revenue stream of Eurostar, the project looks a more hopeful private sector bet than the tunnel it will

British Gas calls for help as profits slump

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

British Gas warned of a profits fall yesterday and called on the Government to help bail it out of heavy losses on its North Sea supply contracts. The company is seeking relief from the levy it pays on gas from North Sea fields, which at present costs fields, was amually.

The warning was accompanied by a statement from Richard Giordano, the chair-

man, which was seen as a hint that the company might be bro-ken up. He said: "The board ... is addressing the tonger-term options open to us, to ensure we

maximise value for shareholders." The statement fuelled speculation that the company plans to sell off the gas trading operations, which are already set to be put into a separate subsidiary.

British Gas also cast doubt on the Government's plans to in-April 1996, after delays in finalising legislation. The Government has put great store on plans for a pilot scheme in the South-west, which it is hoped will slash gas prices and help restore the damaged public reputation of privatised utilities.

The company said exceptionally warm weather could result in underlying profits dropping below last year's £927m. British Gas announced an historic loss of £181m in the third quarter, compared with a loss of £149m in the same period last year.

The loss is after provisions of ation would be exacerbated by £83m related to long-term contracts for gas the company must buy but for which there is yet no market. The company also said that under the contracts it would be forced to make a £520m pre-payment in the cur-

rent quarter for gas not used, Mr Giordano called on the Government to help the company renegotiate these "take or contracts, the effect of which he said is impossible to quantify. He said that the situ-

the introduction of domestic competition next year, adding: The Government has taken decisions to change the structure of the market. We expect them to do everything in their power to ensure that the contracts

are renegotiated." British Gas, whose share of the commercial and industrial gas market has already fallen to about 35 per cent, argues that the contracts with North Sea producers were entered into

when it had a monopoly and an obligation to supply. But the producers say that they have to have regard to the interests of their own shareholders, and not those of British Gas.

As part of its plea for govraised the issue of reducing or abolishing the state levy on North Sea gas supplies imposed before privatisation. Mr Giordano said: "The sig-

feeting the outlook of British Gas. If the exceptionally warm ernment help. British Gas has weather experienced to date continues into the fourth quarter, our full-year earnings for 1995 on a pre-exceptional basis will be below the level

gas prices and the significant en-

forced loss of market share in

the industrial and commercial

market are the main factors af-

achieved in 1994." nificant surplus of gas current-ly available in the UK market, er has cost Britisb Gas £120m

the consequent rapid decline in in the nine months to 30 September, and an estimated £50m in October alone. Mr Giordano said that in spite of the problems, the board intends to maintain the dividend for 1995. Shares fell by 4p to 241.5p.

British Gas also faces continued regulatory threat from the watchdog Ofgas, which is reviewing the price controls for domestic customers and the amount it will be able to charge rival suppliers to use its pipes. Investment, page 26

Profits from Grid may be capped

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity industry watchdog, warned that the National Grid Company could face a cap on profits in future, or a sharing of dividends between customers and sbareholders.

The suggestion comes weeks before the planned £3.5bn flotation of the Grid, owned by the 12 regional electricity companies in England and Wales.

In a consultative document issued yesterday on the future control of the NGC, Professor Littlechild asked for views on whether the price control system used at present should be

scrapped, The Grid currently keeps transmission charges to inflation minus three percentage points. but the formula expires in early

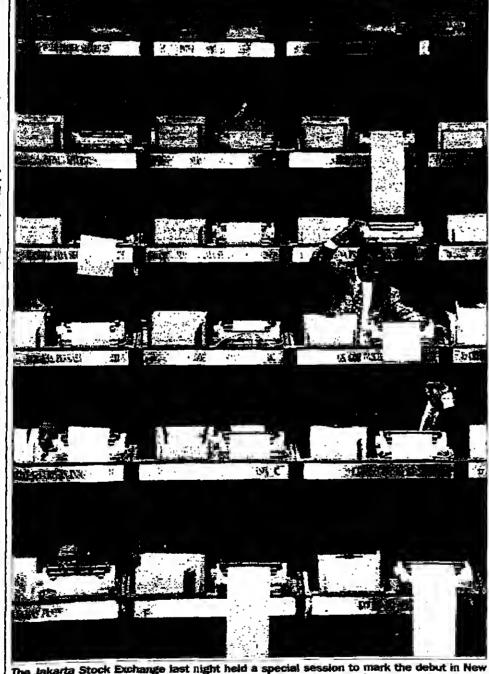
Professor Littlechild said the new control could "relate to profits or to some form of sliding scale involving prices, profits and perhaps dividends". He also asked for views on

"the basis for NGC's sbareholders to receive an appropriate return, and the means of assessing this"

One City analyst said: "This shows that regulatory risk remains a big negative. It would not be good news if profit-cap-ping was to be implemented." Even if the present system of price-capping continued, the future formula was likely to be tougher and could involve a one-off cut of up to 15 per cent.

A spokesman for the Grid said; "This is only the first communication in a discussion and we will respond in due course."

Market unimpressed with Jakarta's telecom sell-off



The Jakarta Stock Exchange last night held a special session to mark the debut in New York and London of shares in PT Telkom, the privatised Indonesian telecoms operator. The issue had a lukewarm response in international markets, and the government raised about \$600m from overseas investors, against a target of \$1.7bn. The price was set at \$18 per American Depositary Share.

Tarmac swaps houses for roads

TOM STEVENSON Deputy City Editor

The long awaited consolidation of the troubled UK building industry was kick-started yesterday by the unexpected announcement that Tarmac is to swap its house-building operation, Britain's second largest, for Wimpey's construction and minerals activities.

The City welcomed the deal with Tarmac's shares closing 10.5p higher at 93.5p, a 13 per cent rise. Wimpey was marked 15p higher at 127p, a similar increase. Both shares have underperformed sharply over the past year as trading conditions

have deteriorated. Following the deal, Wimpey will dominate the UK new-

house market, building an estimated 15,000 houses a year. Joe Dwyer, the company's chief executive, said Wimpey had targeled 20,000 houses a year after expansion of its operations in the US and Australia.

Tarmac becomes Britain's leading road-builder and aggregates producer, generating substantial assel backing for what is expected to be a leading role in the Government's private finance initiative. Industry observers believe the PFI will be dominated by large, financially strong companies.

Both companies described the assel swap, which puts a value of about £320m on Tarmac's housing operation, as a "win win situation". Tarmac

house building, but yesterday's deal confirmed that neither company could continue to fund expansion of a range of businesses and would need to pacity and low demand. focus on only one of their existing divisions.

By swapping assets in this way, the companies avoid accepting a discount lo underly-ing value in the disposal of unwanted divisions, and the need to pay a premium when the funds raised are reinvested.

Neville Simms, Tarmae's sumed by new houses. chief executive, said the deal answered criticisms levelled in August that the sale of housing would fail to achieve asset value, that Tarmac would be unable to reinvest the funds effective- vals, have market shares of signalled in August that it ly and that earnings per share only about 4 per cent.

planned to withdraw from would be diluted. The deal was confirmation of his confidence in the long- term future of the construction industry, which has been plagued by overca-

Analysts welcomed the deal but some expressed concern over the large cash demands Wimpey would face running a house-building company with a land-bank of more than 30,000 plots. Mr Dwyer expected to spend in excess of £200m a year simply replacing the land con-

Wimpey estimates that it will control about 10 per cent of the UK's new-build housing market following the merger. Barratt and Beazer, the next largest ri-

KKR sizes up Littlewoods bid nied it is backing Tony Fitzsi-mons, the former chief execu-Any KKR offer would pose

NIGEL COPE

The UK arm of Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the American leveraged buy-out specialist, has confirmed an interest in bidding for Littlewoods, the retail and football pools empire. The interest could spark a hid battle for the Liverpool-based group, which is already the subject of a £1.2bn indicative offer from its former chief executive, Barry Dale.

Though no formal representation has been made to the Liverpool-based company, the KKR team is said to be "watching the situation closely". KKR is thought to have management candidates in mind to run Littlewoods if it makes a formal offer. However it has de-

tive of the Bristol & West Building Society. Littlewoods said last night it

had received no contact from KKR though it added that further bid interest would come as no surprise. KKR's UK division, called Glenisla, is led by Ian Martin, the former chief executive of Burger King, who earlier this year.

The group was involved in early discussions with Mr Dale, but decided not to take its involvement further at that time. Mr Dale is now being advised by merchant bank Dawnay Day and bas financial backing from blue chip venture capital

a serious threat to Mr Dale's consortium. Mr Dale was ousted from the group last year and is unlikely to be popular with some factions of the Moores family, which controls all the Littlewoods shares.

Mr Dale's consortium recognises the risk of its bid being used as a stalking horse for another group that may ultimately be more successful. However it is sceptical KKR is genuinely interested in taking its interest much further.

The Dale consortium is expecting to strengthen its management team with a high-profile chairman who would be widely respected by the Moores family. The group has made approaches to one or

two "captains of industry" who have expressed an interest. If the bid was successful, Mr Dale would be chief executive and John Coleman, the former chief executive of Texas Homecare, would be managing director of the retail division.

So far only Mr Dale's consortium has made an indicative offer. Littlewoods has called an emergency general meeting bers of the Moores family who own all the shares in the company will decide whether or not to take the bid further and allow the Dale consortium access to the Littlewoods books.

Littlewoods' retail and pools businesses has been struggling. Last year it reported flat profit of £110m on sales of £2.7bn.

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BICC axe falls on cable side

BICC, the cables to contracting

TOM STEVENSON Deputy City Editor

group, confirmed the pressures squeezing the construction industry by taking the axe to its low-voltage cables husiness, shedding up to 900 jobs at a cost of £80m. The group also said it was in negotiations that might lead to the sale of its house-building operation and warned that difficult trading conditions would lead to lower-than-expected full-year pre-tax profits. said the majority of the job losses were likely to be made in its KWO cables plant in Germany, but there would also be cuts in the UK and North America. BICC has already cut 400 Ger-

of cuts will bring its workforce there to under 1,000. Germany has suffered heavly from the difficult trading conditions afflicting the constuction and cables market across Europe. BICC will make an £80m charge to cover the cost of the cables rationalisation, of which about half will cover redun-

man jobs and the latest round

dancy and plant closure costs. The decision to reduce capacity follows a decision to move the group's activities towards higher value-added operations such as electronic speciality and optical cables. Low-voltage cables have generated a low return on capital, squeezed by rising copper prices and intense competition.

BICC had already flagged its intention to withdraw from the house-building market, one of a growing number of companies that has decided this year against continuing the struggle with the moribund homes market. It confirmed yesterday that any sale would result in a good-will write-off of up to £44m.

Associated British Foods

The Chairman reports on a year of progress

Sales increased by 9 per cent and profits before tax by 16 per cent.

Expenditure on new assets and subsidiaries amounted to £355 million. A major acquisition at the end of the year was a leading speciality oils and fats based food ingredients group in the United States.

A bonus issue of ordinary shares is proposed. The second interim dividend will be paid on the increased share capital, and is a 9.4 per cent increase on the previous year.

Summary of results	1995 ₤ million	1994 £ million
Turnover	4,894	4,478
Profit before tax	375	324
Shareholders' funds	2,258	2,090
Dividends per share (on the increased number of stares)	8.75p	8.00p

The above are extracts from the Annual Report and Accounts 1995 sent to shareholders on 15th November 1995.

Associated British Foods plc, Weston Centre, 68 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LQ, England.

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

British Gas looks past its woes

British Gas: at a glance

Market value: £10.6bn, share price 241.5p

1458 -- 42 17.0

240

220

So many things have gone wrong for British Gas this year that it is beginning to look like an orchestrated campaign. But it has been at some cost to British Gas shares, which have slumped from a January high of 316.5p slumped from a January high of 316.5p to yesterday's 243p, up 2.5p on the day. The company has suffered a haem-

orrhage in market share in its industrial and commercial markets. From close to 60 per cent last year, it now commands tess than 35 per cent of the market. Prices have tumbled on the back of the current UK gas surplus.

The problem has been exacerbated for its fair share of tears over the spillages British Gas by its long-term "take-orpay" contracts. These could result in it paying £520m this year for gas it has not used but is still forced to pay for.

To add to this litany of woes, the company has now warned that this year's spell of fine weather will push full-year earnings below last year's levin 1995 has already been £120m and with a further £83m provision for take-or-pay pre-payments, the com-pany did well to hold the fall in ninemonth profits to £103m, leaving the pre-tax total at £721m.

Despite all this blood and core British Gas remains confident enough of its future to confirm its intention to hold this year's dividend at last year's level of 14.5p. It is difficult to avoid the feeling that some of the problems are being overplayed by the company as a negotiating stance ahead of the review by its regulator, Ofgas, of the price formula for TransCo, the newly segregated gas pipeline and storage husiness. What Ofgas decides could have a dramatic impact on the value of the company, with one analyst estimating that a negative outcome would be equivalent to slicing £1hn off revenues over the three years to 1997.

Meanwhile, cost savings from the 1993 restructuring plan - now expected to be £200m this year - are merely offsetting the erosion of the company's business and commercial market share. To keep moving ahead, British Gas will need to find further savings when the domestic market is opened to com-

petition later in the decade. The political game could have further to go. One possibility is that the company could raise the stakes further with the regulator and the politicians by threatening to walk away from its onerous gas contracts. But while those contracts remain, they are a hig obstacle to demerger plans, which management are now thought to see as a

(F) - Final (I) - Interior (N) - Nine months

Meanwhile, investors can expect un-derlying profits of close to £970m this

Unigate sale opens new doors

of the new Milk Marque regime, Unigate was remarkably quiet on the issue vesterday. This was in spite of a fall in the company's dairy profits from £18.5m to £16.5m and an acceleration in the decline of doorstep milk deliv-eries, which still account for 40 per cent of Unigate's milk business. Manageel. The cost to operating profits so far ment did not even bleat too loudly about supermarket pressure on margins, or the weather,

In a year that has seen a summer heatwave turn into a winter of discontent for many food companies, this was an impressively upbeat per-formance. The 12.5 per cent hike in half-year profits to £60m will have

Hazelwood Foods has long been mentioned as a target when the Nu-tricia stake was sold. Tibbet & Britten,

Trading record

Pre-tax profits (£bn)

Dividends per share (pence)

operating profit, £m

300

200

Nine-months results

other key reason for the company's spirited stance is that a diversification away from the troubled milk sector is looking ever more achievable.

Over the past five years Unigate has been divesting core husinesses, such as car dealerships and animal feed, to concentrate solely on its food and distrihution husinesses. Giltspur, the American exhibitions business was sold for £40m last month. And the poorly-performing US restaurants husiness, which includes the Black-Eve Pea and Taco Bueno chains, is also up for sale, even if its recent performance, which saw profits halve from £6m to £3m in the half-year, hardly

makes it an attractive prospect. But the hig step forward was yesterday's decision to sell its 29 per cent stake in Nutricia. Having watched its value double to an estimated £329m, Unigate has decided that now is the time to realise the value and put the cash to better use. The proceeds will wipe out Unigate's debts and give in the funds to buy more businesses in its two

Share price, pence.

the distribution group is another pos-sibility. After plunging to 210p three years ago, Unigate shares have enjoyed a good run since and closed 7p higher yesterday at 432p. On a forward rating of 12 they still look undervalued.

Euro Disney riding for a fall

Euro Disney's shares lost a tenth of their value yesterday, falling 21p to 194p, but it is not clear how the market arrives at even that lowly valuation. Despite the turnaround from losses of Ffr1.8bn (£245m) to a Ffr2m profit in the year to September, the company

still has a financial mountain to climb. Euro Disney's accounts are an accounting mirage. It would be wallowing knee-deep in red ink without goodwill from banks, which granted a holiday on annual interest payments totalling Ffr600m, and Disney's waiver on management fees and royalties.

From next year, the financial props will start to be removed, and it would take a hrave investor to bet Euro Disney will be capable of standing on its own feet. Just to cover the increase in interest costs of Ffr470m by 1998, and the start of royalty and management payments to Disney in 1999, the theme park, tour operations and hotels will have to raise revenues by at least 5 per

Boosting footfall through the gate might be achievable, but raising spend-ing on food, drinks and merchandise will prove a higger challenge. Gate receipts only account for 25 per cent of total revenues. The currency markets aren't helping much, either. A devaluation of the French franc would make a world of difference, in particular for the British, who have easy access to France but can't afford to go.

The rollercoaster ride of Eurodisney's shares over the years makes the white-knuckle experience of the park's Space Mountain pale. It is showing no sign of slowing, with the venture's fi-

nances looking as vulnerable as ever. The hanks have already lumbered themselves with 15 per cent of the shares by swapping debt for equity, and would almost certainly strongly resist accumulating more paper given that Euro Disney still plans to build a second park and will knock on their doors for development funds. Other in-

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

Mind over matter at Orange County jail

Robert Citron, the man who presided over the worst municipal financial collapse m US history, presents his country with another first. The 70-year-old treasurer - now awaiting sentencing on six charges relating to the bankruptcy of Orange County has instructed his lawyers to go for what the Americans call the Saunders defence.

In fact Ernest Saunders Alzheuner's condition had no effect on his sentencing in the Guinness trial. It merely speeded his parole. Still, Mr Citron's lawyers are now claiming that their client is

also suffering from dementia. The notion that the former county treasurer was not feeling himself when he lost \$1.6bn on complex derivatives positions will be put forcefully. The defence submission speaks of "cognitive defects and symptoms of dementia that afflicted and still afflict' Mr Citron.

Which is probably just as well. California takes a dim view of municipal collapse. Mr Citron is looking at 14 years if the judge gets out on the wrong side of bed

While publicly condemning the impasse between Democrat President and Republican Congress, corporate America is privately whooping for joy. The shutdown of the govern-ment has saved US public companies approximately \$9m in the first 24 hours, with the promise of more to come.

The windfall is the result of a lifting of the financial yoke that is the Securities and Exchange Commission. US public companies are required to file SEC returns virtually every other minute, and at considerable cost. The government down-tools has meant the SEC abandoning its recent price rise and filing

costs have been cut in half. News is not so good on the economic front, however. There is concern that statisticians will no longer be able to



Our photograph today shows Matthew Bourne's current production of Swan Lake at Sadler's Wells. Equally it could be a management training session at Lloyds Bank. Lloyds is keen to exploit the hitherto undiscovered synergies between banking and ballet dancing and has sent 16 bank managers to the Chichester Festival Theatre - for some management tuition from the London City Ballet dancers.

"A successful ballet production is all about to ent, creativity, strategic planning, attention to detail and a fo-cus on the target audience," says Lloyds' director Tony Bird. "Skills that are equally applicable in banking." Jo Carter, London City Ballet's stage manager was equally enthusiastic, claiming that Lloyds will "learn the magic of a final perfor-mance combines vision, stamina and teamwork."

Sell the shares.

be in the frame,

for price rises. Inflation figures could soon go badly awry, economists warn. Make the most of yesterday's.

The talk in the watering holes that serve the financial ser-vices community is that BAT, owner of Eagle Star and Allied Dunhar, is poised to huy a huilding society. No idle gossip this, according to drinkers. They claim the plan

is fully primed. Amid the continuing merg-er rumours that so far have linked everyone with everyone the firm favourite to emerge is Bradford & Bingley. This would come as a rude shock to John Wriglesworth, the well known and oft-quoted building society pundit who left the City to join the Yorkshire society. Mr Wriglesworth never ceases to trumpet the merits of mutuality and how the B&B must remain independent. We shall see, Bristol & West may also

William .

The Automobile Association is contemplating a temporary halt to the aggressive promotion of its car security devices. Both its shops that specialise in the alarms, locks and immobilisers - in Sheffield and Ashton-under-Lyne - have been burgled.

If you are offered a stolen hurgiar alarm, you know

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
British Gas (Q3)	5919m (6378m)	721m (824m)	10 4p (11 9p)	
Commercial Union (03)	6 36bg (4,50bg)	369m (327m)	46.2p (51.9p)	
Davison Intel (I)	168 6m (224 6m)	9.0m(15 8m)	3.8p (6 lp)	1.5p (1.5p)
Forward Greent (I)	20.5m (10.9m)	2 (1m (0 94m)	14 2p (7.5p)	3 2p (2 5p)
Gronway Holdlags (I)	5.56m (5 17m)	0.56m (0.92m)	1.96p (3 32p)	0.5p (1p)
Hambros (I)	26 4m (25.2m)	1 1m (21.5m)	-10.9p (4 Sp)	2.5p (4.5p)
Land Securities (i)	228m (228m)	118m (119m)	16.49p (16.61p)	7.1p (6 85p)
Millwall (F)	4.33m (5.81m)	-0 58m (-0.12m)	-0.18p (-0.04p)	mii (mii)
Oxford lestraments (I)	65.5m (55.1m)	9m (7.8m)	11.9p (10.4p)	1.9p (1 7p)
Uolgate (I)	1 01bn (843m)	60.4m (53 7m)	18 8p (16 4p)	6.65p (6.3p)
Volex (I)	89.5m (78.1m)	5 16m (5 84m)	12.4p (14.1p)	7p (6 7p)
VTR (F)	12.2m (11 1m)	1.50m (1.34m)	10 45p (10.52p)	4 4p (???)

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Fake blood and spending cuts

Blood has been spilt, the axe-man has run amok. Yes, it's that time of year, when - if leaks of hrutal cuts are to believed the perennial struggle between the Treasury and spending departments might as well be The Whitehall Chainsaw Massacre, with William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. cast as Butcher Bill. This year, of course, there is

an overriding need to emphasise the sheer scale of the gore and carnage. The audience the Government cares about in the run-up to the Budget is not voters but the financial markets. The imperative for the spin-doctors is to soften up the City for a giveaway hudget. The way to do that is to stress the ferocious nature of the spending reduc-tions in order to justify the tax cuts that have become the Tory party's version of manifest destiny. Cuts are now said to be £6bn rather than £3hn off the "control total", the Treasury's key measure of public spending. Presentation is all in this

most political of hudgets. Eddie George, Kenneth Clarke's for-mer huddy (until the Chancel-lor roughed him up over the summer), warned after last year's Budget that tax cuts could only he justified if there was an underlying improve-ment in the trend rate of economic growth.

There has been scant evidence of that in the past year. Instead, what the Bank, along with everyone else, has witnessed is an unexpected worsening in the state of the public finances. So far this year, the PSBR has actually deteriorated in comparison with last. The underlying PSBR, which

excludes privatisation proceeds. has fallen by £2bn. but this is less auspicious than it might seem for two reasons. The first is that privatisation revenues are forecast by the Treasury to be £3.5bn less this year than they were last year. The second concerns the treatment of the pri-

Commercial Union, one of the

UK's top composite insurers.

vesterday claimed its strategy of

world-wide diversification in

life and general insurance busi-

ness was vindicated by a 16 per

cent profits rise to £381m. The company's profits rise for

the first nine months of 1995

came despite poor performance

in the regular premium business

in the UK life market. Outside

the UK, life operations ac-

NIC CICUTTI



ECONOMIC VIEW

PAUL WALLACE

vatisation of the rolling-stock companies. Remarkably, the sale of the Roscos, which raised the 3.5 per cent projected by the Treasury in June – the City consensus has been that slack exa cool £1.8bn, is not treated by the Treasury as privatisation proceeds. Instead, it counts both this year and next towards the Department of Transport's budget, with the cycling baron, Sir George Young, the unlikely heneficiary.

The received wisdom about the deteriorating prospects in the PSBR is that the problem has risen essentially on the revenue side. Income tax has been running 1.6 per cent less than the June forecast of 9.4 per cent and VAT revenues have been run-

penditure control has not been the problem. Yet this view seems suspect. The Treasury's objective is for the control total to decline by almost 1 per cent in real lerms this year. Yet an increase of the same order seems more likely. In any case, there is increasing doubt about the validity of the control total as an accurate gauge of public spending pressure.

The reason why the control total is likely to overshoot in real terms is that spending departments are benefiting again from unex-

The amount of butchery will be precisely attuned to the City's needs

ning at little more than half the summer economic forecast of 8.6 per cent. Overall, receipts were up by 7.5 per cent in the first half of the financial year compared with the 11 per cent increase last predicted by the Treasury for the full financial year.

Lower economic growth than expected has contributed, but it cannot be the sole explanation. Consumer spending has been less than forecast, and this has meant that the Treasury has failed to garner the usual harvest in VAT revenues. The new flexible labour market, so lauded by the Treasury, has turned into a tax boomerang. The shift towards more part-time work and the low rate of carnings increase have depressed income

counted for 44 per cent of including

world-wide premiums. leading

to a £64m profits rise to £164m.

John Carter, chief executive, said yesterday: "Our opera-

tions outside the UK increased

their contribution to 56 per

cent of territorial operating

profits, underlining the impor-tance of our international

spread of life and general in-

surance business. However,

conditions for writing new an-

nual premium business remain

difficult in a number of markets.

pectedly low inflation. While re-tail price inflation has risen this year to almost 4 per cent, the GDP deflator, which measures "homegrown" costs, principally earnings, has been rising at only I per cent - considerably less than the 3.25 per cent projected by the Treasury

Goldman Sachs expects it to rise by about 2 per cent in the financial year as a whole. Once again this is a consequence of the flexible labour market. The GDP deflator has risen much less than expected for the second year running. The stage looks set for a re-

play of the way in which unex-

reflectingconsumers' unwill-

ingness to enter into long-term

sales on a combination of the

new disclosure regime in the

UK, the lack of a "feelgood fac-

products in the wake of the pen-

sions mis-selling scandal.

Mr Carter blamed the fall in

savings commitments.

pectedly low inflation turned an apparently tight spending round for 1994/95 - with the control total projected to fall by 1.4 per cent in real terms - into a com-With net departmental outlays only rising in the first six months by 3 per cent – below fortable one, with spending ris-ing by about that amount.

With departments able to purchase the services they are providing more cheaply than the Treasury thought would be the case, the Chancellor will not have to dip loo deeply into this year's £3hn reserve. Thus, he will be able to brandish cuts in public spending - the nominal cash totals - for this year and carry them forward to next year. Good for soundbites, but the picture in real terms - the only terms that matter - will be

quite the reverse. A further cause for scepticism is whether the control total is an appropriate gauge of public spending. What matters at the end of the day is total government spending. This includes debt interest and cyclically sensitive social security spending unemployment benefit and income support. Since the control total was introduced, it has been growing considerably more slowly than the overall total, general

government expenditure ex-cluding privatis- ation proceeds. ely overrun of about £6bn on the PSBR makes it likely that this will continue, since at gilt yields of about 8 per cent, this adds a further annual £500m of interest. In addition, cyclically sensitive social security spending is prov-ing remarkably cyclically insensitive. For example, it fell by only £250m in 1994/95 despite a downturn in unemployment that on

usual Treasury assumptions would have led to a reduction of Elbn. None of which will stop the Chancellor from cutting taxes by whatever he thinks he can get away with, justifying the bonanza by pointing to the huge chunks of future spending that have been hacked away. The account of hutchery will be precisely attuned to the needs of the City, but they should treat it, if not as The Whitehall Chainsaw Mas-sacre, as Pulp Fiction. With capital projects certain to be axed and running costs set to be slashed, some of the blood on the floor will be real. But most

Diversification strategy pays off for CU mer. Although there had been

a substantial rise in claims ear-

lier this year, up from £4m to

E20, this had begun to tail-off by the end of September. Profits from general insur-ance in North America grew from £35m in the first nine months of 1994 to £38m this tor", plus the tail-off in public confidence in life and pensions year, although this was, in part. based on higher investment income. Australia produced prof-He discounted the possibiliits of £23m, up from £19m last ty of a massive rise in subsidence claims, following the warm sumyear. The New Zealand operation has been sold.

IN BRIEF

Dawson issues new profits warning

Yarns and garment manufacturer Dawson International issued a fresh profits warning yesterday. The newly-installed chairman. Derek Finlay, said second-half results would not match those in the first half as he announced a 47 per cent fall in underlying profits to £8.4m in the six months to September. Mr Finlay blamed the problems on the warm weather and a lack of consumer confidence, as well as uncertainty over cashmere prices, which have risen by more than 100 per cent over the past 12 months.

Move to take motor dealer private

The directors of Frank G Gates, the Ford dealer, have unveiled plans to take the company private and forecast a collapse in profits this year. Court approval is to he sought for a new company formed by the Gates family directors and other members of the board to acquire the outstanding shares at a price of 87p. The directors have forecast a 52 per cent cut in profits to £850,000 for the year ending in December. The company is proposing to sell its car dealership husiness at Woodford, Walthamstow, Letchworth and Hitchin in a deal worth up to £8m. The two Ford main dealer franchises operated from the properties being disposed of will terminate but the "Gates" trading name will be retained.

Flat Land Securities lifts dividend

Land Securities. Britain's higgest property investor, declared a 3.6 per cent increase in its interim dividend to 7.1 p. despite flat profits of £118.1m (£118.9m) in the six months to September. Peter Hunt, chairman, said profits were bound to be adversely affected by the big development programme on which the company was engaged. He added that rental growth was evident in certain sectors of the market, but admitted that the improvement

Melrose offer boosts Pentex shares

Melrose Energy has launched a £31.2m recommended bid for the rival oil and gas explorer Pentex Oil. The 81-for-20 share offer is being accompanied by a £13.2m rights issue to provide work-ing capital for the enlarged group. Melrose shareholders are being offered one new share at 34p for every five held. The company is forecasting a 50 per cent dividend increase to 0.72p for the year to next June and believes that the takeover should be earningsenhancing. News of the offer, worth 156p a share, sent Pentex shares up 20p to 140p yesterday. Pentex shareholders holding 61 per cent have given undertakings to accept the offer.

Tom Cobleigh sets float price

The flotation price for 15.37 million shares in Tom Cobleigh, the operator of 46 puhs spread across the East Midlands. Yorkshire and Humberside, has been set at 150p each. The price values the

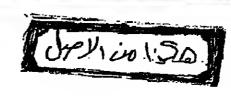
Century to invest in pub estate

Century Inns is to use the proceeds of its stock market placing to invest up to £9m a year in its puh estate. The money will also be used to pay off £11m in debt and its preference and redeemable ordinary shares, according to the pathfinder prospectus issued yesterday. Pre-tax profits at the pubs group in the North were cut from £5.6m to £4.9m in the 12 months to September after being depressed by a £1 m exceptional charge for costs relating to the postponement of the original flotation in February when-the Office of Fair Trading announced an inquiry into wholesale

Losses mount at Millwall

Losses continue to mount at Millwall, with the first division club failing to make the progress it expected on generating extra revenues from non-football events at its new 20,000-seater stadium in south London. Turnover in the year to May declined from £5.6m to £4.3m and losses before tax rose from £119,000 to £584,000. The result would have been much worse but for doubted profits of £3.5m from transfer deals.

Operating losses were sharply higher at £3.5m, compared with £2.1m in 1993/94. Investors remained negative about the company's prospects, and the already depressed share price eased 0.25p.



3,922.2 + 16.9 FT-SE 350 1,775.1 + 10.8 SEAQ VOLUME

688m shares. 27,869 bargains Gilts Index 94.33 - 0.02



Much talk of action, but still no break-up, at Cable

yesterday as the stock market closed that loday's profits announcement could be accompanied by corporate deals and boardroom changes. Hidden riches have long

harked at the group. Its 57.5 per cent stake in Hong Kong Tele-com accounts for most of its £9.30n capitalisation. Mobile telephones, cabling, 80 per cent of the Mcrcury telephone network and a host of joint ventures, help make the sum of the parts worth far more than £9.3bn. The shares are expected to underperform until C&W

grasps the hreak-up nettle.
One suggestion is that the

Is the long mooted break-up at Cable; Lord Young, the chairman, is said to be striving to resist moves to split what is regarded as a telecommunications federation. Today's interim results are expected to be

uninspiring with profits emerg-ing at £61 Im against £567m. Cable shares slipped 2p to 423p with Vodasone recovering a little with a 4p gain to 255.5p.

Zeneca, the drugs group, was the outstanding blue chip, surging 46.5p to a 1,290.5p peak as stories continued to cir-culate of an overseas bid. Turnover was not particularly heavy but with much of the buying seemingly coming from Switzerland, home of Roche and the Ciha-Geigy drugs



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

ular deals and there is surprise company, prompted the gain.
Zeneca has managed to remain The summer heatwave has Zeneca has managed to remain

A fall in retail sales prompted thoughts of an interest rate cut and the Queens Speech received a favourable reception. And with New York, in early trading, stretching to new highs the uncertainty created by the

Stock market reporter of the year

The rest of the stock market enjoyed its best gain for a month with the FT-SE 100 index up 23.5 points at 3.57.4 weathered the sunshine in better shape than most and profit estimates stretching to £123m will be hit. Asda, the supermarket chain, added 3.75p to 102.5p on Credit Lyonnais Laing support and Storehouse

declaration by Gruppo Bancario San Paolo, the Italian bank, that it intended to lift its shareholding to near 20 per

Abbey National held at 569p as it became apparent it had approached the Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester building

Unigate gained 7p to 432p after it confirmed a long running market rumour - the sale of its 29 per cent interest in the Dutch baby food group, Nutricia. The £330m sale is likely to prompt a flurry of deals by Unigate with Hazlewood Foods, up 3p at 111p, the favourite target. The surprise assets swap left Tarmae 9p up at 93.5p and George Winney 15p better at

Aminer, the oil group with interests in the former Soviet Union, held at 54p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett suggest-ed the shares were worth 91p and forecast profits of £600,000 this year and £4.4m

Pentex, the oil group, gained 20p to 140p on the agreed share exchange offer from Melrose which is raising £13.2m through a rights issue.

Rosspur made the expected dismal return, trading at its 3p rights opinion against a 6.5p sus-

dervalued". The broker said

Applied Holgraphics continued its firm run, adding 7p to 103p. Talk of a contract with Microsoft, the US computer house, is apparently helping the action.

TAKING STOCK

The group is one of the biggest blue-sky hope shares in the market. The price has touched 359p. But AH has chalked up 12 years of losses and profits are not expected, even by the notimists, for some time. Earlier this year it raised £2.3m through a rights issue at 60p.

Bruntcliffe Aggregates
gained 2p to 22p as Albert E
Sbarp suggested that the
shares look substantially unit the next few weeks. It is, in effect, abandoning the Lon-

340 Next Solution Solut	and the Ciha-Geigy drugs groups, the market was quickly gripped by take over fever. Rumours linking Zeneca with an overseas strike have often eaptivated the market. This year the drugs industry has produced a series of spectaction with the content of the market. This year the drugs industry has produced a series of spectaction with the content of the uncertainty created by the looming Budget was for one pushed aside. Next, the retailer, had a outstanding day, moving to yet another peak, up 17p at 436 another peak, up 17p at 436 another peak.	ce put on 1Sp to 311p on a Bar- clays de Zoete Wedd recom- in mendation. Hambros, the merchant p. bank, produced the expected poor figures but the shares George Wimpey 15p better at 127p. Linyds Chemists en- joyed a late run, gaining 16p to 248p as bid speculation resur- faced. Cray Electronics also jumped 8p to 54p on vague talk	ing acquisitions. Profits are don market. don market. The software group was loss-making in its past two years, but has swung back into profit it this year and should make
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Defenders will take chances with positioning rather than risk a referee's wrath. As a result, tackling is almost a lost art

examples of the rough play shown in a bombardment of televised football nostalgia and viewers will be wearing shin pads.

Yet however startling it must have been last week for the majority who saw Chelsea and Leeds United kick lumps off each other in the 1970 FA Cup final replay, few at the time thought such behaviour scandalous. Offences that would result today in instant dismissal went unpunished.

Misplaced tolerance perhaps, but when carried to the extreme evident in English football, rigorous interpretation of the law against foul play is not a happy alternative.

This week for example, that most

gentlemanly of footballers, Bohby Charlton, concluded on television that he would now find it extremely difficult to avoid the embarrassment of a caution. David Sadler who turned out alongside Charlton for Manchester United and England thought this to be optimistic. "The way things are, you might even get ordered off," he said.

Sadler's hypothesis helps to explain why any number of coaches in English football are made miserable by the goals against column. "If you want a reason for the defensive errors we see week after week don't look further than the instructions given to our referees," one manag-er in the Premiership said recently.

"Referees are under such pressure to observe the letter of the law that some of the decisions they give are

If familiar the complaint has some substance. It can be seen in the dismal outcome of attempts to compensate for the peril inherent in a mistimed tackle. In fact there is plenty of evidence to suggest that de-fenders will take chances with positioning rather than risk a referee's wrath. As a result, tackling is almost a lost art.

Last year's World Cup finals in the United States saw the clampdown on foul play, especially chal-lenges from behind, carried to farcical proportions, with bookings



and dismissals at a record level. Bearing in mind that the principal objective was technical improvement, the effect of maintaining Fifa's controversial policy more rigorously in England than practical-ly every other country has been min-stitching. Shankly muttered, "Aye, imal. If anything it has been detrimental.

It is a harmless sentimental custom to imagine things as better than they were but whatever falsehoods emerge from the televising of foot-ball history nobody can avoid the fact that players in the past were natu-rally harder.

Of course there was considerable pragmatism on the part of manment. Passing by the home dressing-room at Highhury the famed Liverpool manager, Bill Shankly, was invited to observe the damage Tommy Smith had inflicted on Arsenal's captain, Terry Neill, Peering

Tommy's a hard boy."

Slamming the dressing-room door behind him at half-time of a match against at Cardiff, the Welsh manager, Jimmy Murphy, growled his dissatisfaction with the tackling. "What I want to know is why these bastards keep getting up," he said. Asked by Swedish journalists

how much Nobby Stiles weighed, Alf Ramsey said: "About 10 stones, hut 10 tons when he tackles."

Much of the tackling you see to-day falls into the pathetic category. Defenders in the highest wage brack-et are embarrassingly unfamiliar with techniques that were once funhave suffered agonising episodes, very difficult to conceive today, had

they played in another era.

Adding to the reputation he had
on the field, a famed half-back argued that tackles should be made from the top downwards. Pupils who failed to observe this as an irrefutable principle quickly felt a boot up their backsides.

The troublesome thing about all this is that many referees now appear to go around with the idea that anyone who wins the ball vigorously is to be regarded with deep suspicion.

This is a hlight on the game and something to which the authorities should give serious attention.

Freedom suits the Springbok

Steve Bale meets the South African scrum-half hailed as the world's best

land Test and a momentous year's rugby safely behind him, Joost van der Westhuizen will cease to be South African rugby's - or perhaps that should be South Africa's - most eligible bachelor.

Lucky Marlene. When Van der Westhuizen marries his fiancée in Pretoria he might venture to hope he will also cease his career ahead of him. Yet the to be quite such public property. After Nelson Mandela and against England – on his home François Pienaar, South Africa's lurf at Loftus Versfeld 18 captain, he has the most con- months ago - things went so spicuously recognisable

It is hard to in a country less than the sporting king, I thought best'

recognition factor means in South Africa. "I perhaps loo many - to do with cannol have a social life like a a feisty temperament, which he normal person, because I am explains thus: "I am actually a recognised every single time 1 very soft-headed guy. But when go out," he said. Will Carling 1 get on the field 1 am a differers could say the same?

But it goes further than that. It is scarcely exaggerating to suggest that the Springhoks' achievement in winning the World Cup has given them an almost god-like status in South Africa - which is both an extraordinary compliment and profoundly uncomfortable.

When they recently took themselves on a nationwide tour there were times when the township people were so enthused that all they wanted was hlame for something that was used it as a motivation.'

n Saturday week, the Eng- to reach out and touch them, as if by this means they could be imbued with some of the bottomless collective spirit from the World Cup that the Springboks

were trying to revive. At the heart of it all was Van der Westhuizen, by common consent already the world's greatest scrum-half though, at 24, he still has at least half of last time he started a match awry that he

was promptly face in the land. The new coach dropped. The road imagine here, gave me a freer from there lo Saturday's Test where rugby is hand to do what hefore 74,000 at the new Twickenham has had its pit-

falls, some aside, how many English play- ent person. I'm just a bag of adrenalin. On the field good guys come second."

Here is insight of a sort into plied himself to regaining the Westhuizen was a Springbok tourist in Australia in 1993 but was not capped until the second Test in Argentina later that year, and when England played in Pretoria last year he was winning only his second cap.

As he tells it, he took the my disappointment to fester I



the fault of the coach, Ian McIntosh. "I played under or-ders and did my job," Van der Westhuizen said. "They told me you don't ever give a had ball to the hacks, so that's how I played and I lost my place."

England duly trounced South Africa 32-15, Van der Westbench and though his third cap arrived when he played 48 minthe intensity with which he ap- utes of the Cape Town Test as a replacement wing his frusplace that was lost. Van der tration was exacerbated while all around people were celebrating the revenge of the Springboks' 27-9 victory. "I was very, very disappointed with heing dropped," he said. "I spoke to the coach and all he said was sorry. But instead of allowing

It took a while: the sometime Harlequin Johan Roux remained in the team throughout the subsequent series in New Zealand, and it was only when McIntosh had been replaced as coach by Kitch Christie and injury had caused Roux to miss last autumn's tour of Wales and Scothuizen was relegated to the land that Van der Westhuizen was restored as first choice.

In World Cup terms il was just in time - which is another sonal tuition came in the World it up. For me there is much way of saying the timing was perfect. Van der Westhuizen announced himself with a try against Cardiff in the opening match and went on to establish his formidable reputation in this part of the rughy world with two superb tries, one on the hlind side, the other in the open, that helped sink Scotland.

was able to sharpen my rugby, to improve my game, and I would say that was down to the new coach. He gave me a much freer hand to do what I though! was best within the game plan, and if I went wrong he would tell me how and why and what I should do to put it right. Above all, he was willing to give me individual attention."

The fruits of Christie's per-Cup, where Van der Westhuizen contributed as much as any individual to South Africa's the South African Rugby Foottriumph. Little wonder that, ball Union but even so will have amid the post-tournament turbulence, he should be such a popular target.

The advent of professionalism made rejection of Sydney Bulldogs' astonishing offer of up to That was the tour when I £500,000 to join them in the Aus-

tralian Rugby League competi-tion easier, but Van der Westhuizen makes his decision sound rather more than a straight comparison of financial alternatives.

"In South Africa rugby is everything, and since I was a little boy my greatest dream was to play for the Springboks." he said. "They did offer me a lot of money but when it came down to it I just couldn't give more to life than money.

He is now handsomely paid by this feeling thrillingly endorsed when he runs out at Twickenham because, as he knows from the World Cup final, some feelings money cannot huy. And still more so, he will feel it when he is back home marrying Marlene.

Catt on the mat after outburst

Jack Rowell is growing impatient with various aspects of his England side, as he made clear when the team to meet South Africa at Twickenham on Saturday gathered in Roehampton yesterday, writes Steve Bale.

For one thing, there is the widely - one might say endlessly - touted dynamic style of rugby. This has the manager agitated with his players for not doing it, and with his various interlocutors for persistently asking about it.

Then there is Mike Catt, England's South African outside-half, who shot his mouth off on television the other day. Catt has now been suitably scolded by Rowell though, in actual fact, there are a fair number of non-Transvaalers who would agree with him that François Pienaar was only an "average" player. But since South Africa's tri-

umphal World Cup under Pienaar's inspired leadership, very few will any longer say so. Pienaar, by the way, responded to the Catt call by describing his critic as "a very good player".
"The last thing you do is stir

up the opposition to play better," Rowell said. "Mike is a young man and a very exiting talent who will learn the hard way. On Saturday night he might be looking back and licking his wounds, metaphorically speaking."
As it happens, it is to Catt that

the manager is primarily looking to generate a style which Rob Andrew, his predecessor, ultimalely found impossible -

whether for Rowell or for Roweli's own long-term predecessor, Geoff Cooke. Hence Rowell's pointed suggestion yesterday that England's critics examine what had gone on during the previous eight years.

Rowell's persistent frustration has been the way his England teams leave their open minds behind on the training field. "I would like to think they would put in to practice the way they practise," he said.

Yesterday's session at the Bank of England ground was a case in point, focusing sharply on movement and continuity.

We have practised to win with a more expansive style," he added. "Therefore, I would expect to see it on the field, but it's not an overnight thing. Even New Zealand failed to score a try against South Africa; people shouldn't forget that,'

In any case, Rowell has ruled out as counter-productive the pedestrian but muscular rugby that produced many of England's victories during the successful Nineties - now that Andrew, Brian Moore and Dean Richards are gone. "I don't think we have the players to play in the traditional manner. So we have to change and selection has been done on that basis."

Jonathan Davies is to have a hernia operation which will interrupt his return to rughy. union for up to a month. Davies has made just two appearances for Cardiff since his move from rugby league.

Stanley's exploit explosive start

Oxford University

Major Stanley's XV

Stanley's XV yesterday weathered a spirited second-half fightback by Oxford University to end a three-match losing run. Stanley's reaped the rewards for fielding a stronger line-up than last year - when the Dark Blues won 80-58 - and raced into a 29-0 lead in the first half hour. Oxford were caught cold from the start and the Bath fullback Audley Lumsden ran

through a gaping hole in de-fence to touch down the first of Stanley's seven tries.
The Double Blue Willem Van der Merwe, a last-minute replacement for the Frenchman Albert Cigagna, helped himself to two tries and the Japanese international Yukio Motoki and Lumsden added further tries - two of which were converted by the Canadian

stand-off, Gareth Rees. Oxford's only reply was a try by Quentin De Bruyn, convertcd by David Humphreys, but

31 Pierre Du Preez, and winger Sam Rush scored unconverted tries before Rees retorted with a try and conversion to make the score 36-17 after 64 minutes. The remainder of the game

belonged to Oxford who moved to within five points with tries hy Colman McCarthy and Jon Sackree, converted by Humphreys. But the visitors held out and, in the last minute. John Tucker made the game safe with a try in the corner. SAIC With a ITY III the COTTIET.
Orderd University: S Do Preez (Queen's);
S Ruch (Mansfield), Q De Bruyn (Roble), J
Riondet (Mansfield), T Howe (Noble, capp);
II Humphreys (S Cross), M Butter (St Edmand Hall); C Norton (Roble), K Syoboda
(Empleton), D Ponney (Wolfson), N Basson
(ST Cross), R Yeabsley (Noble), C McCarthy
(Tempeton), M Rollly (St Anne's), M Orster
(Units' Crustin), Replacements: J Salerse for
Du Preez, 55; J Britton for Orster, 40.
Major Stanley's XY: A Lumsden (Bern): D

Du Precz, 55; J Britton for Orsier, 30. Major Stanley's XV. A Lumsden (Barn): D O'Leary (Harlocums), Y Motold (Nobe Steet). F Pescher (Lumgest), D Chapman (Estre): G Rees - Mempori, Caul), S Eates - (Waspa): Il Moeris (Noath), S Břitched (Harlecums), K Yatos (Bath), G Uarwellyn (Neuth), Il Sims (Giouceacer), G Allison (Harlocums), W van der Marwel (Uravers) of Cape Town, R Jamina (Harlecums) for yates, 40; J Tucker (Sydney Univ) for Chapman, 44.

Chris Sheasby, the Harlequins flanker, will be out of action for at least two months after they responded after the inter- suffering a detached retina val to dominate. The full-hack, against Orrell last Saturday.

DAVE HADFIELD "I would hope that we could the First Division, £30,000 for get around the tahle and hold mer with the Western Reds in the 23-year-old stand-off "I am very disappointed with his attitude," said the Wigan coach, Graeme West when the said the wigan coach, Graeme West when the said the said the wigan coach, Graeme West when the said the s Perth, who later hid £100,000 Barrie-Jon Mather, the Wigan talks with the player to sort this Nathan Graham, plus a further centre, is refusing to play and staying away from the club. £5,000 if he plays for Great The 6ft 7in Great Britain in-

ternational, who can also play second row and was in Eng-land's World Cup squad, has sent a solicitor's letter to Wigan telling them that he regards himself as a free agent licitor saying so. and has, in effect, gone on

Identify a strike.

Mather, 22, wants a release from his contract, which runs until 1997, but which he, with the would like to stay international, Paul Newlove. But Newlove yesterday scotched that he would like to stay not want to go to Wigan.

valid. He has been unsettled since before his stint this sum-

coach, Graeme West, who had hoped to include him in the team to play at Castleford last night. "BJ is staying away and we have got a letter from his so-

Mather asked for a transfer

legal advice, believes to be in- there permanently and still

One possibility was for Math-

er, along with the former Bradford prop forward. Kelvin Skerrett, to move to Bradford Bulls in part exchange for the equally unsettled Great Britain

The Bulls have been or- another fortnight with damdered to pay Dewsbury, of

Unsettled Mather goes on strike at Wigan

St Helens have secured the services of two of their exciting youngsters, Steve Prescott and Andy Haigh, until the end of the 1999 Super League season after renegotiating their existing

contracts. Prescott is the Great Britain Under-2t full-back, while the

aged ankle ligaments. The back row forward Dean Busby will also miss Friday's Championship clash at Bradford with shoulder and rib in-

juries, but should be back for the Regal Trophy third-round tie un Sunday week at Hull - his former club.

expected to be fit to face Brad-London Broncos are to stage their Regal Trophy third round

the round on Saturday, 25 November. The winners of this sea-

son's Challenge Cup will pocket the higgest prize-money pay-out in League history, hut the details of how much will not be revealed until the firstround draw which is being Saints' Western Samoan for-ward Apollo Perelini, who has been out with a knee injury, is been out with a knee injury, is The 11 Stones Centenary

Championship teams and the 11 First Division sides enter the competition in the fourth round.

20-year-old winger Haigh is a match against Halifax at Harformer Academy international. Haigh will be out of action for lequins' ground, The Stoop. It

SPORTING DIGEST

BRITTENS: Treble chemos: 24pts £1,217.20, 23 £37.5S, 22 £3 65. Four draws £21.20. Pre-mwys £3.0. Bight homes £4.80. EETHENS: Treble channer: 24pts £2,172.70, 23 £3.50, 22 £10.50. Easy sk. £23.00. Four draws £4.00. Eight homes £2.70. Four mwys £180.00. Goods galore £4.15. Lucky numbers 25 31 1 15 19 28.

Hartieppot.

LONDON TEAM (CTS Divisional Championship v the Middends, Northampion. Sun 15 November); J Ulton (Wasps); Ti O'Leary Horiequrs), Noreamber, Wasps); Ti O'Leary Horiequrs), S Rober (Wasps); G Gregory (Wasps), E Bester (Wasps); G Gregory (Wasps), E Bester (Wasps); A Midlen (Wasps), P Wasps), S Rober (Wasps), S Rober (Wasps); G Sangery (Wasps), S Rober (Wasps), S Rober (Wasps); G Sangery (Wasps), S Rober (Wasps), S Rober (Wasps), S Robert (Wasps), S

R Jenkins (Harrequins).

SIDLANDS: J Quantiff (Rugby Loris); R Sabbiaol (Restord), A Marr (Moscievi, M Allen, H Thomeycroft, P Simyano (all Northampton), D Rishop (Rugby Loris); M Volland, T Beddow Roth Northampton; R Heart (Couceston), J Philippi-Northampton), R West (Couceston), I Shingsley (Bodiod), S Possibery (Northampton), C Tarbacks (Copt, Lercoster), Replacements: S Wheetstone (Bedford, P Challings (Hortquins), J Farr (Winnington Park), N Wohber (Moseys), C Johapson (Rugrey), C Johapson (Rugrey),

ICO Skarting
WORLD CUP SERIES (Bordomin, Fr): Pales
stort programme: 1 J Bordomin, Fr): Pales
stort programme: 1 J Horno and 1 Sand (IIS)
1 O; 3 M Petrion and 8 Saharahitan (Rus) 1.5;
4 O hazahous and A Damen (Rus) 1.5; 6 M

Khellumm and A krubov (Kast 2.5: 6 N Sergeart and K Wirz (Can) 3.0. Women's short pre-grammer: 1 / Chountaid (Can) 0.5: 2 K Cale (Hur) 1.0; 3 S Bonaly (Fr) 1.S; 4 (Slutskays (Rus) 2.0; S Z Szwed (Pal) 2.S; 6 T Awadowoski (US) 3.0.

Siguras II

WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (Cairo) Third
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Jahan 9-2 9-1 2-9 4-9 1-9.) Pool C: Canada
2 Insland 1; Scotland 2 Austra 1 IA Taylor lest
to D Sebtzer 1-9 2-9-9 7-6-9. D Gordon bt C
WellSheuser 9-S 9-4 9-1, A Thompson bt C Ward
5-9-9-0 9-S 9-0, Pool B: Singapore 3 Sweeztand D. Pool P Demmark 2 Magina 1. Pool G:
Broot 3 Japan 0; Greece 2 Portugal 1.

NOUSHU GRAND TOURNAMENT (Pakeoka, Japan) Fourth day of 15: Aprilma von 3, lost 1) to Dasnoho (3-1): Aurithme (3-2) to Konsista (2-2); Kotobeppu (2-2) to Konsista (2-2); Kotobeppu (2-2) to Konsista (2-2); Kotobeppu (2-2) to Kosmovaira (1-3); Kograhyuraka (2-2) to Rasmovaira (1-3); Kosmovaira (1-3); Kotobeptu (2-2) to Haprocent (2-2); Kosmovaira (2-2) to Homomen (2-2); Kosmovaira (1-3) to Magnama (2-2); Tocherlowaika (2-2) to Makeohopo (1-3); Korba (1-3) to Marendama (1-3); Kotonovaira (2-2) to Makeohopo (1-3); Kosmovaira (2-3) to Makeohopo (1-3); Kosmovaira (2-3) to Makeohopo (1-3); Kosmovaira (2-3) to Makeohopo (1-3); Kosmovaira (1-3); Makeohoma (3-1) to Makeohopi (3-1); Akeohoma (3-1) to Makeohopi (3-1); Akeohoma (3-1) to Makeohopi (3-1); Kosmovaira (3-1

TODAY'S NUMBER

dra footballers involved in European Championship qualifying matches yesterday. The striker Robbie Savage played in Wales' 1-1 draw in Albania and the defender Neil Lennon turned out for Northern Ireland at home to Austria.

Dutch undone by Castelli's double strike

Maria Paula Castelli, Argentina's 22-year-old winger, was the heroine of the opening day of the Olympic qualifying tournament here yesterday after scoring twice in their 3-2 win over the Netherlands, writes Bill Colwill from Cape Town.

indeed, it was not exactly Europe's day as Germany struggled to a 1-0 win against China while South Africa's return to the sport's élite after an absence of 24 years ended with a 3-0 defeat by South Korea.

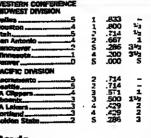
Great Britain, who open their campaign today against Canada, will be grateful for the extra day to allow four of the uad, including their captain. Jill Atkins, additional time to recover from upset stomachs and Jane Sixsmith to be fit again after denial treatment.



TODAY'S FIXTURES

Rugby Union

Other sports BOWLS: European Team Championships (Jersey). TENNS: Texaco Women's Challenger (Edin-



Cricket
First over-bay intersectional, (Jamahadour, Ind); Inda 236 (39.1 overs, M Prahatar 63, D Nath 2-56); New Zealand 237 for 2-1-7 overs; M Crope 107 no. 5 Ferning 78 no. New Zealand of the Standards.

Wathord: Keith Scott forered Stoke to Nor-wich: Miles Sherra: (forward) Norsich to Stoke: Marc Tadlot (postered) Norsich to Stoke: Marc Tadlot (postere) Burlan-clort (Neth) to Brighton: Lee Doobury Imadicideri Huddersheld to Bradford Cay.

Bulgara D. (Spele): Moldora 2 George 1 Kor-many qualify. Group Eight Miceobory Russa. 3 Firtend D. Representative matchess: Un-Bond League 2 Footbol Ascounters XD Let Ac-cingion Stanley FCI. Manderhead Und O Los League XI O. Icla League Pressier Division: Hidden 2 Chertsey O. First Division: Balencov I Whyseleafe 1. Second Division: Brackned O Coller Row 3: Carney Island 3 Warrhoo 3; Cha-fort St. Peter I Banstead 1; Metropoidan Po-lea 1. Safron Wasten 1. Wetram D Hungerford 2. Third Division: Capton I Homchusch 2: East Taymork 2 Exeksall Meant I Leathroo 6 Carn. tont St Peter 1 Barstead 1; Metropoidan Pehoe 1 Seffron Wadden 1, Witham D Hungerhord
2. Third Divisions Clapton 1 Homohusch 2: East
Thurnguk 2 Flackwel Hearth 1; Legrinon 6 Camberley 0; Wealdstone 9 Southail 0; Windsor and
Eton S Care 3. Guardinan Insurance Caps necond repeate Aldershot Town 2 Groys Athlete 1.
Barleng D Hergstonen 6. Second-round replays:
Borelom Wood 1 Bromley 0; Watton and Hersham 3 Kingstony 1. Caritton Cup Hirst round:
Borton 3 Heybridge Swifts 2: Thame 4 Mariow
1. Bearser Homes Lengthe Prevaled Divisions:
Atherstone 1 Greekey 2: Beldock 2 Chelmscord
1: Burlon 5 Stafford 1, Cambridge Cdy 2
Gravescord 1: Gloucester 0 Holeschwen Town 2:
Destin 4 Chelmschem 3; Metrilyr 1,ddl 2 Douchester 1, Mildland Divisions: Bedword 1 Surion
Collined 2: Burlon 1; Biston 0, Grandfarn
3 Burly Town 2; Hinchkey Town 4 King's Lynn 3;

Coldield 2: Bridgeorth 1 Briston v, analysis 3 Bury Town 2: Hinckley Town 4 King's Lynn 3; Moor Green 3 Stouthness 0; Reddach 1 Nureston 5; Tamworth 7 Eveshorn 2: South-

visione Congleton 1 Eastwood Town 1. Interlink Expensia Middland Allianees Armitage 1.
Stappenhil 3: Sandwell Borough 3 Helesowen
Heriners 1. Wiestonied Kent Lengthe First Divisione: Faverstorn 1 Chatham 2; Herne Bay 5
Contentury 0: Whistable 2 Sheppey 1. North
West counties Lengthe Challengie Cup Secord round replay; Holser Old Boys 4 Bootle
2. Northern Counties East Lengue President's
Cap tabled round: Better 2 Borowesh 1; Goole
2 Ossett John 1: Hartiseld Man 4 Yorkshire Anaeur 1; Mattoy 4 Hucknoll 2. Jewson Eastern
Lengue Presider Division: Woodfridge 2 Newmarket 3. Herreward United Counties Lengue
Second round: Spotlong 1 Holbecon 1 (not);
Stamford 1 Stevents and Lovds Corby 2. Lengue
of Wales Lengue Cup First round: Barryor Coy
D Cermes Bay 3. FA Youth Cup First round:
Stough 2 Herevold 4; Stackin 2 Chelsa 2. Firstround: replay; Vication 3 Wycombe Wondoreca.

ICE Hockey
1884: Forsa 5 Toronto 2: New Jersey 1 Hardord
Or Procaugh 4 Delegan 2 Indias Bar 5 Booton 3;
Worth 3 Philodelphia 2 Bort 51 Loss 1 M
Wargers 1 Intl Winning 6 Owang 5 Odi: Cal-car's 4 Control 3 Derrot 6 Los Argees 5; NY
Lander 6 Control 3 Derrot 6 Los Argees 5; NY
Lander 6 Control 3 Derrot 6 Los Argees 5; NY
Lander 6 Control 3 Derrot 6 Los Argees 5; NY

LITTLEWOODS: Trable chance: 24pts 112,109,20, 23 1194 00, 22 £14,30, 21 1490, 20 £1 15, Four draws £10 55, 10 horses £15,70 Five aways £17,85, VERNONS: Trable chance; 24pts £6132,05, 23 £15 50, Five aways £2,25, 115 10 horses £15 70, Five aways £2,25.

Rugby Union Rugoy Union

Bristor's Scottish international prop, Alan
Sharp, has escaped a ban after been
cleared of foul play in the scrum during a march against Leicester in October, But the Gloucestershire Rugby
Football Union's disciplinary committee
upheld his earlier yellow card for stamping the month before against West
Hartleppoot.

19<u>27</u>7 \$77* ---· Million

 $W_{n+1}(t), \forall p \in \mathbb{N}$ [1995] A. P. A. A.

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Freshers

Wood -

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A TOP A STATE OF

The number of Crewe Alexan-

Freshers enrol for the course

Greg Wood on an initiative to enlight students on the ways of the Turf

Can Can Charlie and Captain Marmalade will never be bousehold names, but racing may owe them a considerable debt none the less. As they fought out a stirring finish to the novice hurdle race at Kempton yesterday, dozens of students. many turf novices themselves, were gripped as the advantage swung one way and then another. Even the replay drew gasps and winces. If just two or three catch the racing habit as a result, Kempton's foresight in offering a special student package yesterday will have been richly rewarded.

Much is said about the need to attract new racegoers if the sport is to flourish. The large number of families attending this year's Sunday meetings has been encouraging, yet many courses fail to see beyond creches and clowns as a way of introducing young people to the racing experience, which should, almost by definition, involve an occasional bet. The average five-year-old may enjoy an afternoon at the track, but then they are also likely to enjoy scribbling with felt-tip pens or playing hide-and-seek. Neither will necessarily become life-

Students, by contrast, "can take part in the sport as a betting event, it's the real thing" as Simon Marcantonio, Kempton's public relations officer. pointed out yesterday. Just as importantly, they are also "the opinion-formers of the future". Almost 100 students were attracted by yesterday's concessions, which included admission for just £5, exclusive use of the Thames Suite with a bar at stu-

WARWICK

SEVENFOUR (nap) 3.40 Tejano Gold

GOING: Good.

SIS PACENG

HYPERION 12.40 Reverand Brown 1.10 Zephyrus 1.40 Cobb Gate 2.10 Ardcroney Chief 2.40 Ninfa 3.10 ONE-

Edithand course, Run-in of 240 yards.

Left-hand course, Run-in of 240 yards.

Course is W of city on B4095, Railway stations at Warwick (1m1 and Leanington Spa (2m), ADMISSION; Club S 12 110 to 24-year-olds \$60; Tattersulls \$8; Course \$3. CAR PARK; \$3

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Ninfa (2-40) & Omesevenfour (2-10) have been sent 205 miles by G Richards from Greystoke Cumbria.

12.40 ASHORNE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,000 added 2m

CHILI HERBITS G Balong 5 10 12 CHIPARUS K Boley 6 10 12 HARLEQUIN BAY (218) J Tuck 5 1

......M A FBbzg

F5- REAUMAN (334) P 5:ens 5 10 12 6 BONDOUR (12) C Mann 5 10 12

STRONG GLEN P Wegnern 7 10 12 0 TANSEEQ (12) M Meeger 4 10 12 34- TEINEN (239) T Forser 4 10 12 - 16 deuterod -

1.10 ASHORNE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,000 added 2m



Undergraduates work out how to supplement their grant and absorb the racing spirit at Kempton yesterday

dent-union prices and, in many

from as far away as Norwich. Cynics will point out that most students would walk barefoot to the North Pole if there was the promise of cheap beer when they arrived. Others might wonder how the sight of fivers being fed into the Thames Suite Tote can be squared with claims of widespread student poverty. John Holmes, the president of the turf club at the University of East Anglia, which brought a 35-strong party yesterday, sees no contradiction.

"A week tomorrow I'm going ' cases, free travel to the course on a demonstration about student hardship," Holmes said, "and many students experience serious hardship. But the ex-pansion of higher education has involved people for whom money is not such a problem, and we're not just talking about hooray Henrys.'

Holmes, who used to ap-pear in Grunge Hill, cheerfully admits that the acting fees soon found their way to his local betting shop, and the repeat fees from the current re-runs are going the same way. Many others

Minimum weefft; 103. True pandizap welfats: Duncing Dencer 9st 11th, The Tartan Deef 9st 3th, BETTING: 5-1 Caldervale, 31-2 Shamblese, 8-1 Calcius, 7-1 Lone Risk, 8-1 Decided, Convoy, 10-1 Desert President, 12-1 others

2.10 ETHELFLEDA'S MOUNT CONDITIONALS

2.40 WILLSFORD HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m 2f

3.10 VARLEY HIBBS MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS

OO ROBENNO 2237 6 Baiding 8 11 2 B Cillord TEXTRADER Ms L Richerts 9 11 2 M Richards OT THEMELISTEPS (46P) P Bower 6 11 2 R Johnson (5) 2 FIGHTING TROUT (14) Miss A Embines 8 10 11 Richards

3.40 UFTON HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D)

-7 declared - Daly Sport Gif 9st 8b.

1-7 declared - Daly Sport Gif, 25-1 Hanner

1-7 Daly Sport Gif, 25-1 Hanner

1-7 Daly Sport Gif, 25-1 Hanner

D) £5,000 added 3m 2f

HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 2m

in his party, though, are relative newcomers to racing. "Probably about two-thirds of them hadn't been racing before a similar student day at Newmarket a few ally get you g weeks ago," he said. "But they and screaming" enjoyed that and they've come along again today."

Yesterday's action was just as infectious, After the battle between Can Can Charlie and Captain Marmalade - in which the former regained the lead in the final stride - one student from Brunel University who had backed the runner-up reported that he had still enjoyed

the run he had had for his money. He had heen racing before only once, but had already learned that "races like that really get you going, shouting

There was something to cheer in the novice chase, too, in which Jamie Osborne produced one of the best rides even of his distinguished career. Myland, a faller on his only previous start over fences, did his best to unseat Osborne at the ninth, and then blundered so badly at the 13th that his rider was left clinging, stirrupless, to his neck.

Photograph: Peter Jay

Myland lost at least 25 lengths, and when Miracle Man, the odds-on favourite, approached the penultimate fence well clear, his hackers were counting their money. Another miracle man, though, was about to have his say. Osborne hrought Myland with an irresistible run to catch the leader at the last and win go-

ing away.
If his performance did not convert at least a few of the students to the pleasures of the their vital signs.

Merry Gale back on track

Klairon Davis and Merry Gale, is also appearing for the first land's leading Champion Hurtwo of Ireland's top chasers, time this season in the dle hopes, Hotel Minella, may two of Ireland's top chasers, meet in the Grade Three Tipperary Racecourse Chase today. The Jim Dreaper-trained Merry Gale, fourth in the Cheltenham Gold Cup last season, will be ridden by Richard Dun-

at Aintree last April.

IR£10,000 two-mile contest.

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Ninfa (Warwick 2.40) **NB: Super Malt** (Wincanton 2.30)

Ante-post punters were yesterday warned that one of Irebe sent chasing later this season. The Aidan O'Brien-trained

eight-year-old is quoted as short as 14-1 for the Cheltenham race with Ladbrokes after four wins in novice company last season. But O'Brien's wife, Anne Marie. said: "He might be going chasing. He has been schooled and he's a super jumper of fences."

woody on his first outing since

his victory in the Martell Cup

Klairon Davis, Arthur Moore's Arkle Trophy winner,

SOUTHWELL

HYPERION 12.20 k'aronetta 12.50 Pine Ridge Lad 1.20 Double Diamond 1.50 Sandmoor Denlm 2.20 La Brief 2.50 Present Situation 3.20 Vera's First 3.50 La Petite Fusee

GOING: Standard, DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low.

STALLS: 0f, 71, Im & Im 3f - Inside; rest = outside.

■ Fibresand surface; h h-hand sharp, oval course.

■ Course is 5m W of N-wark, Rolleston Junction adjoins course.

ADMESSION: Club 5-12; Tattervalls 50 AP members of course's Diamond Club 5-1, Insider-16s AR PARE: Free.

SIS

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Drimard (12.20); Awfully Eishy (visored) (12.50); Enswe (visored), Arch Angel (visored) (1.20); Dragonflight (visored) (1.50); Bendeo (visored) (2.50); Nuteraclor, Let's enting in (viscosci (1.50); Benneto (viscosci (2.50); Nutcracker, Leve Hang On (3.20).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN IIATS: Vera's First (3.20) was at Lingfield on Friday; Ballymae Girl (12.20) & Mr Bengerae (2.55) won at Welverhampton on Saturday; Certaia Way (1.50) & La Pe-tite Pusee (3.50) won at Welverhampton on Monday. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Misiement (12.50) & Eristal Diva (2.20) beth been sets "12" offect he A Newsynthe Team Verantember

(2.20) have been sent 232 miles by A Newcombe from Yaruscombe, Devon; Graciona Grecelo (1.20) & Master Milifield (2.50) sent 227

12.20 NOTTINGHAM LIFE MANAGERS HAND-ICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,650 1m 6f

CAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,650 1m 6f

1 55250 PREMER DANCE (S) 0 Hoydn tones 89 12. A Mackay 5

2 024432 PANPAS BREEZE 1289 DF) W Jave 3 97 . A Mackay 5

2 20005 FWE TO SEVEN (\$10) (G) C Thorston 89 5... A Partie (3) 11

4 551301 BRAINSAG GRE, 89 (D) M Bradley 7 93 550. L Champot 2

5 023050 ROSE OF GLEWN (10) (D) 8 Poling 4 8 11. A Pertinan 9

5 00-0300 WILDFIRE (SWIN) 6124 R Abelluse 4 8 8. A Medicine 13

7 255000 PRIMARO (10) (C) W Essy 3 88. S Medicine 13

8 00-0051 FREAND PRINCE (SQ (DO) ONOTES 48 5 504. Lo Humann (7)8

9 510000 DRIMARD (104) (C) K McMaffe 4 7 8. N Ademia 8

10 005223 MARDINETTA (10) M Ryen 3 7 8. S Bandwell 1

11 GO-0050 LE TEMERARE (26) (C) Don E Incas 9 77 . Non Telefor 10

12 (00060- DISPOL ONNERS (SQ) MS V Acortey 4 7 7. P Fessery (S) 12

13 000-005 ELACK (SE BOY (SC) R Beatman 4 7 7

14 OCO BRIAND REMISIRE (189) 0 Coggoe 3 7 7 . & Adminion (5) 14

- Minimum height: 7tt 76. The American weights: La Temerake, Dispol Dancer, Back for 8 by 7st 50, Indian Texture 7st 50.

BETTING: 3-1 Feel And Cency, Perspass Broom, 7-2 Bullyrians Girt, 5-1 Five To Severe, Marconsite, 20-1 Precisior Dance, 25-1 others

12.50 RIVER IDLE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,150 added 1m

BETTING: 8-1 Frans Lad, 7-1 Amnesty Bay, Nies Mercy, 8-1 Dowdency, Pine Bidge Lad, Bold Aristocrat, 10-1 No Submission, 12-1 others

1.20 GRAND UNION NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 7f 004 MANHOLLANDE LAD (37) M Crepman 7 7 _C Nemday (7) 15 - 15 declared -

- 15 deciared - kinimum weight: 7st 7b. Tue handing weights: One Life To Live, Danning Cav-eller 7st St., Order 7st 4b., Grackus: Greech 7st 3b., Alufrokande Lud Gst 10b. BETTHNS: 4-1 Red Acutale, 9-2 Demble Dismand, 5-1 Proud Monte, Lagan, 11-2 Monnesseer, 6-1 Grackous Gretalo, 12-1 Krane, 18-1 others

F) (DIV II) £3,150 added 1m 1 110100 SWEET SUPPOSH (47) (D) (85) C Ouyer 4 8 5 ____ T hous 8 2 25-0000 CARCHARGE BLUE (158) T J Reagram 3 8 12 _.T Anthry (7) 11 3 006200 AMSTOP (58) R Alethurs 3 8 9 ______ 5 Sanders 2 0-00450 BEALMONT (21) J Banks 588

2.20 NOTTINGHAM LIFE MANAGERS HANDI-CAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,650 1m 6f

BETTING: 3-1 tjmb, 4-1 Le Brief, 5-1 Who's The Best, 6-1 Never Time, T-1 Sharazi, 6-1 Victor Lauzio, 12-1 Mister Lawson, 18-1 others

2	.50	HUMBER HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 7f
1	103001	MR SERGERAC (5) 8 Paling 4 10 2 (Sec) P Featery (5) 3
2		SALORBALIE (5) (CD) S Bowring 4 10 0
3	5340-08	
4	420103	LITTLE HINER (5) (CD) P Evens 4 8 10 K Fallon 15
5	1400-80	
ĕ	110400	
7	400036	
8	440000	JOHNSON THE JOHER (23) (CD) J Leich 495 - Donn Micheson 5
B		SOMERTON BOY (13) (D) P Calver 5 9 2 I lives 8
10		SHARP REBUTT (40) (D) P Maion 4 9 0
11	001002	BE WARNED (36) (D) N Callegran 4 9 0 D Harrison 1
12	433140	MASTER MILITED (40) (D) (C) HE 38 13 . D GATTOS (5) 13
13	421250	
ū	120163	BENECO CLA CC II Mis N Nacestoy 6 B 11 Januaria Sandres (7) 7
15	400500	Q FACTOR (S) O Hayon Jones 3 89
16	004522	PRESENT SITUATION (5) (C O BP) Lord Humbhaston 4 8 8
		A Whelen (5) 11
		- 10 declared -
BET	TN9: 6-1	Wigherto, T-1 Mr Sergerac, 6-1 Present Situation, Little

3.20 SELLING STAKES (CLASS 6) £3.250 2YO

		SETTING SPACES (CENSS & ESSENCEIO
		7f
	000664	SHANDORA (B) (C) 8 Pailing 80R Perform 20
	374451	VERA'S FIRST (6) (0) G Lewis 9 D
	4360	ADDIE PRAY (29) M Javes 89 Tate 9
		CONTRAPRE (10) M Ryan 89 D Cabbs (5) 11
		DIASAFINA (24) S Williams 8 8
		FLORRETA (17) J L Hare 8 9 A Mackey 4
		HOLLOWAY MELODY (28) 8 McMahon 89
		KIND OF LIGHT R GLESS 88 D Harrison 2
	438005	LA FINALE (16) M H Easterby 8 9 K Pallon 1
ı		LATO BACK LUCY (21) JA Hams 89P Footey (5) 6
l	Ě	LET'S HANG ON (117) W Hagh 89 Dale Gibson 13
į		MACICAL MEL (19) R Guest 89
•	8400	NUTCRACKER (10) C Booth B 9 A Collision 15
į	U56	PEOPLE DIRECT (19) K Moluido 89 G Duffield 9
i	00	PETITE AS JETTE (22) W. Javes 8 8 Stack (3) 12
		SHEPHEROS DEAN (201) P Hastam 8 9 V Heliday 7
•	•	

- 15 decimed -BETTING: 3-1 Vers's First, 9-2 Addie Pray, 5-1 La Finale, 6-1 Pedile Jell-ette, 8-1 Florrie'm, 10-1 Kind Ot Ligist, 12-1 others

3.50 TRENT APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 5f

| 7 | Penney (9) 3 | 7 | 200400 | 10RD SKV (97) (0) A Balley 4 8 4 | Aughth Stellander (5) 3 | 8 | 2505010 | ISBDER TRADER (12) (0) R Guest 4 9 0 | Stock 6 | Stock 6

WINCANTON

HYPERION 1.30 Little Hooligan 2.00 Ottowa 2.30 Romany Creek (nb)

3,00 See More Business 3.30 Airtrak 4.00 Cheryl's Lad

WORNG: Good.

Right-hand, galoping course. Run-in of 200yd.

Course is NE of town on B3061. Templecombe station (service from Landon Waterloo) 4m. ADMESSION: Members \$12.50 (Junior Members, 17 to 22 years, 56.50); Tattersells &8; Course (and cars) \$4. (Under-10s free Into all enclosures). CAR PARE-Press.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH EUNINERS: M Pipe — 35 winners from 123 runners gives a success ratio of 28.5% and a profit to a 51 level stake of 525.53; Mrs J Pitessa — 21 winners, 67 runners, 31.3%, +565.73; J Gifford — 16 winners, 88 runners, [17.3%, -541.04; P Hobbs — 16 winners, 105 runners, 14.3%, -52.75. ners, 17.3%, -541.04; F Hobbs — 16 winners, 105 numers, 14.3%, -52.75.

LEADING JOCKEYE 2 Denwoody — 31 winners, 142 rides, 21.3%, -547.55; J
Osborne — 11 winners, 60 rides, 18.3%, -514.42; M Fingerald — 11 winners, 110 rides, 10%, -55.00; F Holley — 10 winners, 35 rides, 11.6%, +511.90.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE PINNERS; Take Chaptes (3.30) has been sent 111 miles by Mrs N
Datifield from Armonth, Devon.

1.30 UWESU STILL STANDING NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m Penalty Value £2,040

LINES F. £2,600 added 2m Penalty Value £2,040

1 04-136 MICH SOUGHT AFTER (47) (The MSA Partnershy) K Burle 6 11 12 ______ & Bradley
2 /2525/ DMMASNA BOY (579) (Mis Mingrey Kenyon Hobbar) C James 7 11 9 _____ Mr E James
3 105- BURRED MASE (202) (Chas Mingroy Mes 6 Hobbar) C James 7 11 9 _____ Mr E James
4 22-213 ALL CLERY (40) (D) (EF) (A I Jones) M Flor 4 11 7 _____ D bidgenate
5 01/400- RIVER EMBN (257) R E Bradenoth) 0 Gandoth 6 11 1 ______ M Dwyer
6 409120 IUTLE HOOLIGAN (7) (BF) (6 F Edwends G Enwards 4 10 8 ______ A P MicDay
7 PO4 VINDING RED (15) (Spoal Resewe Rang) M Neard-Dales 5 103 _____ C Minards
8 0KSD-CD MORTHERN SINGER (7) (Loe Panes) R Hodges 5 10 1 ______ Y Deacouble (5)
9 F3040- PIANLE WOURDER (106) (D 6 8 0) Reborned N Bestingle 7 10 0 ______ V Statisty
10 0KD-R CARRIMA, MD (182) (Ms M D Bes) K Being 5 10 0 ______ V Statisty
10 0KD-R CARRIMA, MD (182) (Ms M D Bes) K Being 5 10 0 ______ V Resemb
11 60P-54 MIGHTOWN CAMALER (16) (Ms R Dobsov R Hodges 4 10 0 _______ J Harde (7)
Alloward: 10st. Two Immidists weights: Pigalle Monter 9st 11 1b. Cambel Md, Hightown Cavaller 9st 10 b.
RETTRIC: 5-2 As Clear, 9-2 Little Hooligan, 5-1 Visitings Red, 6-1 Mech Sought Affec, 8-1 Northern Slanger, Rharned inage, Gawarta 60y, 16-4 others
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 U lang 21 ms
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 U lang 21 ms
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 U lang 21 ms
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 Wing 21 ms
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 Wing 21 ms
1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 N Wilsenson 7-1 Wing 21 ms
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1994: Inclusioch 5 11 1 M Wilsenson 7-1 Wing 21 ms
1994: Inclusio

2.00	CHARD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £3,765
1 11	HARWELL LAD (13) (H Welstead) R Alner 6 11 12

3 1/135-2 OTTONIA (1/5) (Paul & Barberi P Nicholis 5 10 12 ... - 3 declared - 3 declared - 9 Horizon - 3 declared - 9 Horizon - 9

1994: Mad Thyre 7 11 0 M Fitzjerald 9-2 (N Gaested) 12 cm FORM gets a stone from another useful chasing recruit in Harwell Lad, and that gives him a winning opportunity, especially with Tony McCoy on board. Ottawa, a bumper wither in Iroland and on the mark over hurdles at Windsor last season, was racing for the first time in seven morths when second to Do Rigitly in a Newton Abbrit chase over a shorter trip 15 days ago. The distant fourth, Tricksome, has won since and Ottawa should stay this trip. Harwell Lad, given his good jumping and edge in chasing experience, will be a tough nut to crack, but this small field might suit Ottawa more. Harwell Lad is best waited with but he does look a particularly nice prospect who will poy to follow. He is a three-time winner in point to-points. Mingstey Singer, a marken, has looked a dodgy jumper.

1			
	2.30	HAMILTON LITESTAT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £7,50 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £5,329	D
11	112U6P-	MAD THYME (209) (C) (R J Janks) N Gaselee 8 12 0	
1 2		MR FLANAGAN (281) (CD) (May Richard Stanley) C Brooks 9 11 11 6 Bread	
13		CLEVER SHEPHERO (542) (D) Diess H L Cope) P Hobbs 10 11 9Peter Hol	
14		SMITH'S BAND (246) (Arthur Smith) Mrs J Pernan 7 11 9R Fan	
J 5	52314-3	SUREEY BAY (12) (CD) (Mrs. Carole Schnart) P Nicholis 9 11 8	М
6	2/44253	ACAJOU M (FR) (301) (Robert Orden) A Turnell 7 11 5P Carbo	М
7	3222/6/	NORMAN CONQUEROR (637) (Queen Ekzabettu T Thomson Jones 10 11 4 G McCo	w
678	P13-221	ROMANY CREEK (10) (D) (Dules of Atholi) G Balding 6 10 11 (4ex)	ù
B		LANDSKER MISSEE (208) (C) (Miss I K L Woods) M Pipe & 109	
11	264413-	SUPER MALT (230) OF O Abson) 8 Meeten 7 10 5 R Pos	

12 283-U15 BELISTERY PELLOW (122) 687 Dies R A Hamphresh N Tweston Device 10 10 5 ...C Manual 12 293-015 BIDSTERY PELLOW QLZQ GAT (MEE'R PAURINESS IN 1852A-1865; 30 10 5 12 Mee'R PAURING: 3-1 Mr Flandgon, 5-1 Clover Shepherd, Romacy Creek, 8-1 Smith's Bend, 8-1 Landel Missile, 10-1 Acojou III, Sunley Bay. 22-1 others 1994: Plye's Nap 8 10 11 5 Earle 6-1 (R Albert) 6 cm FORM GUIDE

11 4F231P- STEEPLE JACK (243) (K Bishop) N Bishop 8 10 5 .

Many of these are returning from lay-offs, but it could also be argued that Romany Creek is back in action soon enough after his war at Carlete 10 days ago when he was ridden out to master Ninfa. A 4th rise trondy rules him out and the extra furlong and a half will sur given that the distance was three and a half mill busited up Over The Stream at Stradord last month. But there will be more hustle and busite this time and it could ue wown soung with ALA-DUO sil. An ex-recipin chaser, his on, not run to his potential last year but might do better under Andy Turnell's flag now that he has had more time to set-be in. A late tell nobled of him assured victory in a Lingfield handcop last January at though he was less than fluent at Nottingham alterwards, he shaped well enough to in-dicate he will be winning races. His chances are better now that he has escaped from uses has shown a bking for this course but he refused on two oc 12st burdens. Mr Fhanagen has shown a king for this course but he refused on two oc-casions last asseon the continued the second time). Normain Conqueror has been so signify raced lately that it is hard to know what to expect of him, but Sunley Bitly has oblig-ed three times over the course and distance and the stable could hardly be in better form. Med Thyrine has more ability than a record of two wins gives him credit for and last sea-son's buccesses included a demotition of Meannur and Fast Thoughts of Unicerter. Lendsker Miseille is young enough to improve but is not a proven stayer, unlike Swith's Band. Selection: ACAIOU III

[3.00	GREAT WESTERN NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £ 2m of Penalty Value £3,727	5,000 added
1		BELL ONE (USA) (16) (Ms. J.P. Seleck) A Duron 6 11.8.	
2	1	SEE MORE BUSINESS (12) U A Kenghicy) P Nicholis 5 11 8	A P NicCov
3	PPP5/	CHARGER SPRINGS (939) (Mess C Horler) Miss C Horler 9 11 4	C Maude
4	P/005/	CHURCARIO (1,045) (R Cheetham) J Bosley 9 11 4	Doubtlet
5		DARRING KEING (18) (Cleave Stables) M Botton 5 11 4	
6		JUST ALBERT (27) (A E 7 Mines) Mrs J Pitron 5 11 4	
7	/00463-	MELLION PRIDE (208) (St Melion Estates Lnt) P Hobbs 7 11 4	D Bridewater
8	00/4403-	QUARRY HOUSE (210) (Mrs E Chappell) D Chappell 7 11 4	G Liston
وا		TIPPENS ALONG (483) (D Gandolfo D Gandolfo 6 11 4	
10		YAHMI (406) (W E Sturt) J Old 5 11 4	
١ū		ST KSTT\$ (35) (T Lightbownet W G M Turner 4 10 13	
ı –		-11 declared -	

BETTING: 8-4 See More Decimos, 7-2 Bell Onc. 7-1 Yahmi, 8-1 Quarry House, Mellion Pride, 12-1 During King, 14-1 others 1994: Strong Grave 8 10 9 J Osborne 6-4 (O Sherwood) 10 zm

1994: Stong Grove 8 10 9 J Osborne 6-4 (it Stermood) 10 zan POTRIB GUIDE

SEE MORIE BUSUNESS has a good follow-up opportunity after his 15-length defeat of Queen Of Spedea over two and a half miles at Chepstow in an uncompetitive race. Still, the van wee just the tocket given that he promises to make his name jumping fances later on. He has afrecily earned good reviews in point-to-points and has plemy of scope. It may not be altogether plain sulfing against such as Yahouli and Bell Ope, he looks good enough. Yehmi, a brother to a winning jumper, Lynch Lew, was a detent type of middle-dissance malden for Dick Hern in 1993 and showed his potential when second to Tipping Tim at Chetonhara, us over a year agb. Bell One made it look easy when winning at severe year agb. Bell One made it look easy when winning at this previous rine starts and the resultant penelty hardly helps his cause.

Selections: SEE MORE BUSINESS

3.30		CEPINE ADBAS MUVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £5,000			
		added 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,834			
L	431113	POLDEN PRIDE (10) (D F Lossyer) G Beiding 7 11 10			
2	022S-2F	FATHER POWER (3) (Peter Bosting) P Hotels 7 11.6 Pater Hotels.			
1	OPPP-U2	COURT NELODY (40) (Mick Colum) P Netholis 7 11 1 D Relationship			
ı	3/1/245	SHARP PERFORMER (302) DAI'S S C Ellen) K Ballov 8 11 0 A Thornton			
,	4455/2-3	TAKE CHANCES (19) Blue N Duffeld Met N Duffeld 7 10 13			
,	33053 F	ARTRAK (6) (BF) (Amtrak Express Parcels Ltd) N Henderson 8 10 13			
7	04/4F53-	TAKE BY STORM (200) [Mrs Robert Blackburn; R Bucker 6 10 10B Powell			
3	20/2	GARDESON CORMANDER (367) (Robert Ogden) A Turnel 8 10 9P Cardierry			
•	56F422	TRUST DEED (USA) (9) (Malcolm Enticott) S Kinght 7 10 2 G Upton			
Ø	004P-04	MONKS JAY (15) U A Cover G Thomer 8 10 0			
1	OPOPO(C-	MAGGIE TEE (\$78) (R L Scorge) N R Mitchell 7 10 0			
		- 11 declared -			
Briefum weight: 10st, True handicap weights: Monks Juy 9st 7th, Managle Tee 9st 6th,					
EXTENS: 5-2 Poiden Pride, 3-1 Airtrak, 8-1 Erust Deed, 6-1 Court Sold Communiter, 6-1 Court Melody,					

apper to be too hard on GARRESON COMMA

it was emposaure for the rainscripper to the burning-bred gelding looks every inch a cha on the gelding's three runs to date, but this jumping-bred gelding looks every inch a cha er and now that he tackles a longer tip off a nice weight he might easily show to acke tase. He stayed on behind the easy winner Hurdy at Leicester last November, as he hi or and now that he tackles a longer trip off a nice weight, he might, essity show to ackernage. He stayed on behind the easy winner hurdy at Leicester last November, as he had behind Annie Kelly over hurdies at Notingham the previous sesson. Lack of a run might be enough to find him out, but he will almost certainly pay to follow and any losses here can be considered only lant. Coart Maladoy has yet to win in Britain following a string of successes in Ireland but he can improve on his Wordsster second to Rocco. Feither Power is quackly beck on the recescurse after Monday's Plumpton tall and attinuigh there is a question-mark over his jumping, he is capable of going well. Policies Pride knows the ropes in these notice handlesps but is 3to tigher in this tougher race after last month's Heristica way. This unusual mp will not bother him. The repent Cheltenham taker Airbraik has the pedigree to succeed and is well in with Polden Pride on hurdles form.

Selection: GARRISON COMMANDER

4.00 WESSEX HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added

L 214 Feikhly Value 20,022				
1	65110-0	CADQUEOLD (FR) (47) (D) (D A Johnson) M Pgo 4 12 0		
2	4113-	MOMENT OF 61,017 (341) (D) (David O Moon) D Gendalio 4 11 11		
3	06510-3	NEEP ME RI MAND (36) (CD) (P C Tory) N R Machell 6 11 5 D Slow		
4	11120-1	UGHT ENGLIS (12) (CD) (Richard Peterson) J King 7 11 5		
ļ 5	31/31/7-	CHERM'S LAD (244) (Mrs Elaine Baines) N Honderson 5:10:10		
6	40621-	SPRING SAINE (312) (Mes C Horlet) Miss C Horlet 8 10 0C Man		
234567	5414CP-	MUSTAHD (413) (Unity Form Holiday Centre Ltd) R Hodges 6 10 0 7 Descention		
i		-7 declared -		
	Afficiant material along the second s			

aurimen weight: 10st. Two handicap weighes: Spring Soint Set 70, Maxianii Set 12th. BETTING: 7-4 Lightening Lad, 11-4 Maxmoot Of Glory, 5-1 Codingold, Cheryl's Lad, 6-2 Keep Me In Milat, 12-1 Spring Saint, 66-1 Maximii 1994: The Caumrue 6 9 8 A P McCoy 5-1 (G Baiding) 10 ran

CRIM GUEDE

LIGHTENING LAD should be more vulnerable off the revesed mark after his Chepsion win12 days ago, but he returns to the scene of last season's three was and Jeff King is on a roll with inchealthoch having stamped himself as a useful chesing prospect with yesterday's kampion win. Moment of Glory is a second-eason hurdler with further improvement in him and he was 20 lengths clear of the third when pipping Season in a nowces hurdle at Leicester a year ago. Keep Me in Mand has some decent form to his credit, notably a defeat of Forest Feather and Wee Windy at Chepstow in April, while Cadongold has something to now a when his different has not at the only of later season. thing to prove after his disappointing runs at the end of last season and the be ON: LIGHTENING LAD

 $e^{-2i^2 A} = e^{-2i^2}$.

- 10 declared RETTREC: 5-2 Zophyras, T-2 Mountight Abr, 4-1 Incubate, 8-1 Wynberg,
8-1 Lady Lacey, 10-1 Scariet Rambier, 12-1 others 1.40 HARBURY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,500 2m 4f 110yds

(CLASS F) £2,500 2m 4f 110yds

1550/14 DECDED (40) R Les 12 12 0 A Megine
1552/F CHELSEA NURVE (400) (Di K Burke 8 11 13 A Limench (3)
613156 CELCUS (23) (D) M Ppc 11 11 9 J Lower
185404 CARTHAX (203) (D) R Hood 10 11 6 A Dokahi
3521/0 SHANAUSE (20) (D) 8 Liceoby 8 11 5 Ar I L Liceoby
236243 CORNOY (552) C Marin 5 11 3 Microdiach Kolly (7)
1263-46 IONE RISK (27) C ARCH 4 11 2 D Gallaghor
20573-P ERLEMO (140) W Clay 8 11 2 Dinne Clay

HAYDOCK 1.20: 1. QUENE CONSUL (R Supple) 4-65a; 2. Dentero Dropes 5-2; 3. Miles Lempland 10-1. 6 ran. 5, 15. (B Rottwell, Warthil). Totte: £1.60: £1.30, £1.20. OF: £1.60. CSF: 57 RG

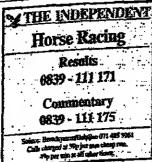
1.50: 1. THORNTON GATE (L Wyer) evens lav. 2. Discound Cut 5-4; 3. Gymerak Sovereign 13-2. 3 ran. 9, 25. IM H Easterby. Maken). Tota: £1.90. DF: £1.30. CSF: 2.20: 1. COULDN'T BE BETTER (G Bradley) 11-8 trr; 2. Chattern 4-1; 3. Superior Fla-lafi 6-1. 6 rad, 2, 11. (C Brucks, Lembourn). Totac (2.20: \$1.50, £2.40. DF: £3.40. CSF:

2,50; 1. RUNAWAY PETE (D Endewater) 1.3 fay; 2. Nirvana Prisce 6-1; 3. Livio 7-2.3 ras. 242, 15; IM Proc. Wellington). Total £1.40. Dupl Forecast: £1.70. CSF: £2.57. NP Market 3.20: 1 TIME WON'T WAIT (I Rollion) 8-

4 kby, 2. Pall O'Praine 9-4; 3. Kings Eng-ligh 7-4, 3 ran, 7, des. (R Praines, Spershalt), Tokes £1.90. DF: £2.00. CSF: £4.36, NRs; 8.50: 1. SMITH TOO NV Mersion) 7-4; 2. Alternation 14-1; 3, Yes Man Evens tav. 4 (az. 3%) 15. (Mrs.) Pernan, Upper Lambourn).

Total 52.40. Duel Forecast £13.70. CSF: Quadpot: £22.50, Placepot: £19.30 Place 6: £18.31, Place 5: £16.51





3,40: 1 SPHANING STEEL IS BUTCHEN

11-4; 2. Herbert Bucharap 11-8 far, 3. Poppea 9-2, 6 ran, 30, dist. (P Rodford). Total 13.50; £1.70, £1.30. DF: £2.70. CSF:

RACING RESULTS HEREFORD 4.10: 1 KENTFORD TINA IS CLITEN) 50 1; 2. Maydin Margic 20-1: 3. Supreme Lady 7-4 fee. 17 ren. Sh nd. ½. U Mullimal. Total: £194.50; £19.50, £5.90, £2.00, DF: 5338.60, CSF: £785.19. Thic. Not word, pool of £394.09 certied toward to Witnerston 2.30 1.10: 1. CORRIN HILL (T Describe) 12-1: 2. Misser Blake 25-1; 3. its Grend 33-1: 13 ran. 5-2 tay Green's Seego. 20, 7. (R Hodges). Tote: £10.80; £3.40, £7.30, £7.30, DF: £47.00, CSF: £235.07. Tricast: £8.298.38, Tric: £225.00 - part wor. Pool of £53.59 camed forward to Wincarron 3.00 Place 8: £50.12. Place 5: £2.62.

140: 1 MAN MOOD (N° E James) 10-11 fax; 2. Durkery Beacon 14-1; 3. Jim Valentine 7-2. 8 ran. 14. 5. (C Brocks). Tota: £2.00; £1.30. £1.60, £1.50. D°: £7.60. CSP: £12.91 Tricast: £29.80. KEMPTON 1.00: 1. CAN CAN CHARLIE 8. Aspet) 9-4 inv; 2. Captain Marmalade 5-1: 3. Oc-ziem 12-1. 9 inn. Six-hd, 1½-2 U Pearce, Newmarketi, Yote: £2.40; £1.40, £1.70, £3.70. DF: £6.60. CSF: £12.76. Tucast: £95.27. Tho: £20.00. 2.12.91 Incast £29.90.
2.10: 1 VARIO (Lower 15-8: 2, Royale Augela 5-4 for 3. Sentalle Boy 7-1. 14 ran. 42.10. (M Pine.). Tota: £2.70: £1.10, £1.20, £1.50. DF: £1.60. CSF: £4.21. Tho: £2.60.

1.30: 1. EXCESSOR PROFILES (C Maude) 7-4 fee; 2. Jet Boys 16-1; 3. Quant 11-2. 9 ran. 10, 11/4, (N Twiston-Davies, Cheltenham), Tota: (2.50: 51.50, 53.00. 52.10. DF: £28.00. CSF; £27.16. Trio: £70.50. 2.40: 1. STONEY BURGE (A P McCo): 6-2.40: 1. STONEY BURGE (A P McCo): 6-3.1. 7 rain. 4, 10. (P Mcholle). Tota: £1.90; £1.40, £1.80. DF: £3.70. CSF: £4.61. DF: £28.00, CSF: £27.18. Hist £70.00 2.00: 1. COONAWARA (M.A. Fizgerski) 1.3-2; 2. Glemat 4-1; 3. Sevem of Dismonds 7-2 Ir fav. 10 ran. 7-2 Ir fav Mulhanh (pulled up). 3. ½. (Capt 7 Forster, Wantage). Totes £8.20; £3.20, £1.40, £1.90. DF: £30.10. CSF: £31.05. Tricast; £97.04. Tho: £57.90. 2.10: 1. THREE PHILOSOPHERS (A P MCCO): 13-8 tar; 2. Right Angle 50-1; 3. Hood-winker 9-1; 13 ran. 4, 10. (Capt 7 Forstor). Total: £2.70: £1.60, £11.00, £2.40. DF: £172.70. CSP. £74.61. Thoset: £810.11. Those £436.20 2.30: 1. MYLAND (J Osbornet 6-1; 2. Microcle Map 8-11 Ray; 3. Little Rowley 50-2. 6 rap. 1¼, dist. (O Sherwood, Upper Lambourn). Tota: £6.00: £2.00, £1.20. DF:

£5.40. CSF: £10.24. 3.00: 1. REDEEMYOURSELF (P Hide) 7-4 fav; 2. Teen Jay 8-1: 3. Capementay 9-4. 4 mai, 30, 25. () Giford, Findon), Tote: £2.40. DF: £4.00. CSF: £11.25. 3.30; 1. INCHCAILLOCH (G Upon) 13-2; 2. Certainty Strong 5-1: 3. Destioy Calls 9-2. 9 ran. 7-2 fav Second Call field. 1, 20. U King. Sendonj. Tota: £7.90; £1.60. £180, £1.70. DF: £18.70. CSF: £35.90. Tno:

don) evens fav; 2. Mystic Isla 50-1; 3. Arithdon) evens tar, 2. Mystor, sale 90-1; 3. Antar-metic 8-1. 17 ran. 11/4, hd. (Lady Herriss. Lutterampton), Totas £1.80; £1.10, £12.10. £2.40. DF. £103.00. CSF. £64.81. Tho: £238.30. NR. Melles Princess. Jackpot: £7.576.40. part won. Pool of £9.603.97 carred forward to Wincarton today. Quaddoot: £31.50. Placepot: £55.30. 1.50 RIVER IDLE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS

Illingworth rains on the parade

Martin Johnson in Pretoria finds England's chairman unmoved by the emotion of a historic Test

16 First Test, Pretoria

2 Fifth Test, Cape Town

The historic aspact of the cricket match about to get under way here today has, to no one's great surprise, made scarcely a dent in the emotional armour of two of English cricket's more earthy souls

Raymond Illingworth spent most of yesterday engaged in the not unfamiliar pursuit of having a grumble - largely about the groundsman's use of a watering

Michael Ath erton, invited to wax lyrical about the significance England's first Test match in South Africa since 1965, could barely suppress a yawn.

Illingworth has rarely been more animated of late than when relaying 17 Fifth one-day int, Durban (d/n) 19 Sixth one-day int. East London Mrs Illingworth's messages about the water shortage hack home in

Yorkshire, and when he saw the Test pitch being liberally sprinkled yesterday, he moved in as though he had just spotted the hloke next door hosing the lawn and was making a public-spirited citizen's arrest. The fact that he was politely told to mind his own business

did not improve his mood, and Illingworth, who regards most things practised outside England - or Yorkshire, come to that - in fact, make that Farsley - as more than a little suspect, made it perfectly clear that, in his considered view, johnny

foreigner was up to no good.
"What sort of pitch are you expecting?" Illingworth was asked. "I can't tell, can I? Not 'till they give up watering it," he replied. "It was already slightly damp first thing in the morning. and then they started watering it again in the afternoon. Pretty unusual if you ask me."

The underlying suspicion in Illingworth's mind was that the

groundsman had heen in structed to make sure the pitch favoured a South African attack top-heavy in pace-bowling, and that England would retaliate by adding Mark Illott to the 12 originally selected. When I first saw this pitch I

thought it would definitely turn," Illingworth said, "and that it would have been a straightforward bat-first decision. But I

South Africa v England It could be an interesting first couple of hours." However,

were clearly leaving themselves the option of playing four seamers, Atherton not only did not quite share Illingworth's view of what was hap-

pitch, but also intimated that he thought his chairman might have been suffering from a touch of water on the brain.

"Raymond said it was unusual for a pitch to be watered the day hefore a Test," Atherton was asked. "Do you think so as well?" "No I don't," he said. "Have you played in a Test when the pitch was watered the day before?" Atherton replied: "Plenty."

The England captain also ventured the view (not shared by Illy) that the groundsman might actually know what he was doing. He knows better than anyone how to prepare his pitch, and one of the great things about



Water sports: Raymond Illingworth (left) and Mike Atherton ponder a heavily watered pitch yesterday

Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allsport

Pakistan to

heal the rift

As England A tomorrow be-

revealed that in a new era of "in-

teraction" and reconciliation,

England has been targeted to

help improve standards of um-

that the umpire Shakoor Rana

- whose stand-off with Mike

Gatting in 1987 at Paisalabad

set the tone for further contro-

versies - "would never stand in

the English umpire who accused

Pakistan of ball-tampering in

1992, has been invited on a

lecture tour of the country.

Significantly, Don Oslear,

The official also announced

piring and coaching.

another Test".

von Malcolm as one of only three pace bowlers. With England having decided on six batsmen, Richard Illingworth's inclusion would therefore place a serious question mark about Malcolm making the final XI. As far as Raymond is concerned, he is only slightly more concerned about whether the pitch is cov-

ered in puddles, than whether Malcolm will be able to land the ball in one of them.

Atherton also has reservations about Malcolm, having more than once sent him to Coventry (or at least to long leg) after a profligate couple of overs, and neither does it bother him that

even more historic were a hlack cricketer be seen on the field for the first time in a South Africa v England Test match. .

What about the occasion, Mike?" came the inevitable question. "I'm not really bothered about that," he said. "It's just another Test match. The real importance of this game is

short, is not much bothered that the South Africans are planning to mark the occasion with marching bands, mobile discos, fly-pasts, parachntists and crowd-banner competitions, but if any of his batsmen gets out trying to win the few thousand rand on offer for bouncing a six off a giant can of lager, you get the feeling he may not be best

As for the South Africans, their reliance on fast bowling is reflected by the fact that David Richardson is within one catch of becoming the first wicket-keeper in Test history to record 100 victims without a stumping. England are more than hap-

py that Fanie de Villiers is liketo miss the entire series: through mjury, but they still have Allan Donald, Brett Schultz, Shaun Pollock and Brian McMillan to negotiate, and the whole series may hinge on whether England can avoid their customary habit of springing from the starting stalls like a greyhound with two broken

Sampras powers

Pete Sampras humiliated Boris Becker in front of his adoring German public in Frankfurt yesterday while confirming his position as favourite to win the ATP Tour World Champinship. In an arena just a short dri-

from his home town of 1, played in a demor-6-2, 7-6 defeat which the transfer of the transfer o triamph effectively se-

cares the Wimbledon champion a place in the semi-finals after the round-robin stage.

More importantly, it gave the American a confidence-boosting victory over the player he re-gards as his fiercest rival at the

year ending championship.

The capacity 9,000 Festhalle crowd was hoping for a party for Becker a week before his 28th birthday but many of the fans behaved in an ill-mannered way, hardly applauding any of Sampras's superb ground= strokes and serves, shouting during points and roaring Becker's name in football style.

Sampras ignored all the dis-tractions with a superb display from the front and back of the court. He departed after one hour and 21 minutes, leaving marks on the carpet where his 125 mph aces had left Becker swiping at thin air.
The first 25 minutes were

come the first English side since Mike Gatting's embittered team eight years ago to play a Test on Pakistani soil the Pakistan Board has moved to the best anyone has played against me in this hall," Becker said. "He was on fire. I have never seen something like that. It was like a freight train hit me. heal the rift that has cast a pall over cricketing relations be-I have just got beaten up and I'm bruised all over." tween the two countries.

Arif Abbasi, the Pakistan

Cricket Board's chief executive.

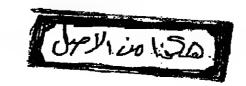
Sampras added: "It is always different playing Boris. It is one thing to try to beat him because he is a great player - another thing dealing with the crowd."
In the red group, Sweden's

Thomas Enqvist opened his account with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over former the world No 1, Jim. Courier, of the United States. Steffi Graf, the joint world No 1 with Monica Seles, began her challenge in the WIA Tour Championships with a 6-2, 6-2 first-round win over Amanda

Coetzer in New York yesterday. Results, Sporting Digest,







jexton is princed princed fowlers maturity

Daily confident o Swiland's chance

1

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pic-Ms

hen)W-

ory.

≗ry-the

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and

When they next gather, they

could be under new steward-

ship, with Sexton suggesting

that after 20 years in charge,

apart from a three-year break

make way fur his assistant Ray

said so far," said Sexton, who is

not under contract for the part-

time post. "I am happy to do the

they want a younger man to

come in - if they want Ray to

take over - then I am quite hap-py to step down at any time."

Maurice Setters, the manag-

er of the Republic of Ireland

Under-21 team, wilt not lodge

an official protest against the

referce whose controversial de-

cision helped produce a result

which put England's young-

Portugal beat the Republic 3-1

But their crucial second goal,

Coll was lying injured. Even

when the hall went out of play

for a throw-in, the Croatian ref-

eree, Mateo Beusan, refused to

let Coll be treated or substi-

tuted. Within seconds, the Por-

tugese substitute Sergio

chester United and West

Bromwich defender, said: "It

was clear the referee should

have stopped it and perhaps

there is a case for us protesting.

take it that far. I was only

thinking of my own team, not

better side than us and de-

served to win. Certainly,

though, the referee didn't do us

Away wins in Greece and

Russia were the key factors in

a shock defeat in the first game

Dailly missed out on the quarter-finals and semi-finals four

years ago when Scotland beat

Germany hut lost out to Sweden. Now he hopes to add to his cap

record before being ineligible.

and then take it from there.

wants to stay involved."

34 in the campaign. Oldham's Scott McNiven won his first cap

at Firhill hut it was soured by a

red card for two bookings 33 min-

utes after coming on at half-time.

In the end it took a Vittorio

Valentini own goal to defeat the

all-out defence of San Marino.

"I was injured around that

in Finland last autumn.

England, but Portugal were a

"But I don't think we want to

Setters, the former Man-

Conceição scored.

second-placed England.

in the early 1980s, he might now

Football

With the

Production of

7. 16 M

1.5

11 mag

Sed

Robbie Fowler's progression to the senior England squad moved a step closer after an-other impressive display by the verpool striker.

Fowler's disappointment at the Under-21's exit from their European Championship, despite Tuesday night's 2-1 victory over Austria, could be eased with a part in Terry Venables' plans for the main event next summer.

The 20-year-old scored England's first goal and set up Neil Shipperley for the winner at the Riverside Stadium, earning him the plaudits of the the Under-

21 head coach, Dave Sexton. "If you put him in the side, he would not be out of place," Sexton said. "Anyone with his kind of talent must have a chance. I saw him play against Manchester United when he got both Liverpool's goals. His second was a brilliant finish. He is capable of that, yet is still a young man." Fowler, sent off in the victo-

ry over Austria last year, demonstrated there is more to his game than scoring (last night's goal was his 13th of the season) with a superb flick to supply the pass for England's decisive goal from Shipperley.
. "The lay-off he did for our

second goal was tremendous," said Sexton, whose side responded after Fowler's opener was quickly cancelled out by a 30-yard drive from Harald Cerny. Fowler formed an effective

partnership with Shipperley. while there were also commendable displays from the Newcastle players, Robbie Elliott and Steve Watson. However, England ended

their qualifying campaign one point behind Portugal, who progressed to the quarter-finals any favours."

Christian Dailly wants to extend his world record of Under-21

caps to thirtysomething, and in-

sists Scotland have nothing to

fear in the last eight of the Euro-

pean Under-21 Championship.

collected his 30th cap at Under-

21 level as Tommy Craig's side chalked up a seventh successive

win in Group Eight with Tuesday's

Scotland go into today's quar-

ter-final draw with the likes of

Spain, Portugal, France, Ger-

many and Hungary among the

possible opponents in a two-

available at the moment we

should go anywhere with a hit

you realise that nations like

Russia and Greece, who we

beat home and away. Holland and England have not made it.

but we have beaten Portugal and

France in recent years at this lev-

el and with the squad that Tom-

my Craig has we know we will

attack wherever we go."

There are no soft touches.

of confidence." Dailly said "I've tooked at the results and

With the talent we have

egged tie hext spring.

1-0 victory over San Marino.

The Dundee United player

Dailly confident of

Scotiands chances

Brawl at **Blues** game in **Italy**

GUY HODGSON

The coach of an Italian Serie B cluh was allegedly head-butted by a Birmingham City player after a ficry Anglo-Italian Cup

march in Italy yesterday.

Ancona's Massimo Cacciatori reportedly needed hospital treatment after the incident during a dressing-room brawl between players and officials after the game, which Birming-ham won 2-1. A Blues director, David Gold, had objects thrown at him and home fans tried toattack visiting supporters.

City's physio, Neil McDi-Wilkins. "Nothing has been armid, was said to have been pushed by Ancona's Davide Pentoni as he tried to treat Paul Tait for a head injury and, at one job, especially at my age. But if point, Cacciatori allegedly grabbed Birmingham's Ricky Otto by the throat. Afterwards a group of Ancona fans hurled. stones at a bus taking Birmingham supporters to the airport.

Leeds United have become embroiled in more transfer confusion. After the saga of their fruitless pursuit of Colombia's Faustino Asprilla, the chance of Sweden's Tomas Brolin arriving at Elland Road has diminished.

sters out of the championship. On Tuesday Leeds' managing in Leiria to finish top of their director, Bill Fotherby, described qualifying group and edge out the £4.5m Brolin deal as a matter of "dotting the i's and crossing the t's" but Parma, for whom 24 minutes from the end. came Asprilla also plays, said it was anywhen the Spurs defender Owen thing but settled yesterday.

Revealing that Brolin and Leeds had failed to agree a contract, a spokesman for the Italian cluh said: "We expect Brolin back in Parma later this week. He's rejoining our roster. Parma and Leeds agreed terms for Brolin's move but the player himself failed to reach an agreement with Leeds. At the moment the talks are blocked if not

totally broken down."
That hrought surprise in Yorkshire. "It's all in limbo because Tomas is playing for Sweden in the European Championship," Leslie Silver, the Elland Road chairman, said last night, "As far as we are concerned he is flying here to Leeds tomorrow."

Wolverhampton Wanderers will "politely reject" an application for the vacant manager's position if they receive one from Brian Clough. On Tuesday the former Nottingham Forest manager said he would like to lineux, but a club spokesman said yesterday: "We are assuming Brian had his tongue in his cheek when he made these remarks.

guiding Scotland through after A phone poll organised by the Wolverhampton Express and Star revealed that the Cardiff manager, Kenny Hibbitt, would be the most popular appointment. The former Wolves player received 23 per cent of the votes with Chris Waddle second on 20.

time, the only period I've been out of the Under-21 squad," he Manchester United must defend a second accusation of said. "I'm delighted to bave won 30 caps and I'd like to get poaching after the FA charged them with making an alleged ilit to 32 in the quarter-finals legal approach to 16-year-old David Brown while he was with "There is going to be a lot of Oldham as an associate schoolcompetition for places because boy. They face a similar charge Tommy has used a number of after Arsenal claimed they enticed away Matthew Wicks. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, players already and everyone Craig, in fact, has selected 43 said: "We are quite happy to anyoungsters for squads and used swer the charge. We have noth-

ing at all to feel guilty about."
Striker Gary Penrice has rejoined Watford from Queen's Park Rangers for £300,000, while Torquay, bottom of the Third Division, have named Eddie May, once in charge at Cardiff, as their new manager.



Knee-bends: Nick Anderson (left), the Orlando Magic guard, steals the ball from Michael Jordan, the Chicago Bulls guard, at the Orlando Arena yesterday. Orlando came out on top 94-88 in a match between the two leading contenders for the Eastern Conference title

England beat Pakistan as Jansher rests

Squash

England reached the quarter-finals of the Men's World Team Championship in Cairo yesterday with the help of their opponents, the defending champions Pakistan, who chose this final qualilying match to rest the world champion, Jansher Khan.

Pakistan had played Jansher in every previous qualifying match, sometimes without necessity after a stressful World Open campaign in Cyprus last week, "It is too many matches," Jansher complained. "My feet hart with blisters and my bones ache.'

His replacement, Zarak Jahan, was no match for the Yorkshireman Simon Parke. Del Harris, a World Open fihalist last week, took only 42 minutes to beat Mir Zaman Gul but Chris Walker, another Esex player, lost in 64 minutes to Zubair Jahan. The result pits England against Canada, who defeated Ireland 2-1.

Results, Sporting Digest, page 28

Stevens has Wembley in his sights

Snooker

Matthew Stevens put last year's Benson and Hedges Championship semi-final defeat behind him last night when he took the title in Edinburgh. The 18-year-old overwhelmed Paul McPhillips 9-3 to claim the £5,000 first prize and a trip to Wemhley next February for the Benson and Hedges Masters.

Fittingly, he rounded off a clearance of 122 to clinch the tro-

European Cha

Group One

Group Seven

phy. "I am thrilled to have won tny first major title so early in my career," said Stevens, who has moved to 57th on the provisional world rankings from a starting

point this season of 236. Stevens, from Carmarthen, was never in trouble after a ferocious first session in which he clinched six of the opening seven frames. McPhillips, the world No 64 from Glasgow, won two of the first three frames of the final session, but the Scot memorable nine days with a admitted: There was too much of a leeway to make up.

YESTERDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS

Anglo-Italian Cup Group A

1,500 Iemino og 33 European UNDER-21 CHAMPIORSSEP Grou One (Rouent): France 3 Israel O (France qualify for quarter-finals). Group Two Quarter-finals). Group Two Quarter-finals. Group Two Quarter-finals. Group Two Quarter-finals. Italy 0 Lithuansa O (raly quarter).

1 Birmingham (2)2 Edwards 27 Tentors og 33

CE COMERNATION First Di-

Miterev 17, 72 9,000

Group Eight

Matthew is a great player and in a couple of years could eas-

ily get into the top 16." Stevens, who meets Steve James in the UK Championship later this week, will face Terry Griffiths on his Wemhley debu in the new year. He said: "I have known I've got the ability to win tournaments, it's just a question of getting some consistency in my game.'

Romania defeated Slovakia 2-0 in

Kosice yesterday to secure first place in Group One of the European Championship qualifying tournament, and guaranteeing them a place in next year's 16-team field for the finals in England.

A crowd of over 7,000 saw Gheorghe Hagi score for Romania in the 68th

minute followed by Donnel Munteanu's strike in the 83rd minute. Germany also qualified for the finals before their fi-

qualmen for the imass denote their neal Group Seven match against Bulgaria last night, following Moldova's 3-2 win over Georgia in Chisnau. Germany qualify for the finals because even if they

finish second in their group, Moldova's win means that at least two other sec-

ond-placed finishers will have an infe-nor record to the Germans. If Bulgaria

finish second in the section, they will likewise qualify for the finals under the

Big men win Nemeth's tactical battle

Basketball

England secured their first win in Gruup B of the European Championship last night with a 75-72 victory over Portugal in Ponte Sor, thanks to a 10minute scoring spree either side of half-time.

With England trailing 31-25, the coach, Laszlo Nemeth, decided to switch to his hig men and it worked. They led by six at the half-way stage after a scor-ing run of 13-1, which included a three-pointer on the buzzer by the captain, Peter Scantlehury. who was making his 100th appearance for his country.

The pressure continued after the break with an 11-2 hurst for England to lead 49-34 with four minutes gone. But the Portuguese inched their way back and with just under three minutes left they reduced the deficit to six points. However, England's guard, Karl Brown, rallied with victory. a three-point play to make sure of the vital win.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP Semi-final round (Ponte Sor): Portugal 72 (Nuno 19, Mechado 11, Saka 10, Plouden 10: England Bucknall 17. Brown 16, Huggins 151

England give chase to runaway Wales

Bowls

Wales could only pick up one point from vesterday morning's women's matches, hut still held a four-point lead in the European Indoor Team Championship in Jersey. Their solitary point came in

the triples, in which Val Howell, Ann Dainton and Rita Jones had to settle for an 1t-11 draw with Scotland's Kate Adams, Jeanette Conlan and Joyce Lindores. The Welsh trio led 10-3 after nine ends, but the Scots rallied and forced their share of the spoils with a final-end single.

In the pairs, Wales' Cynthia Morgan and Julie Davies lost for the first time - 20-15 to Ireland's Muriel Wilkinson and Margaret Johnston. Wales led 7-2 after six ends, but then failed to score on any of the next eight ends with Ireland going 13-7 up on their way to

England closed the gap on Wales in second place when their pairs team, Jayne Roylance and Mary Price, beat Scotland's

Sarah Gourlay and Jan Woodley 28-14 thanks largely to two counts of six.

England failed to make up even more ground on the Welsh when Edna Bessell's triples side lost 17-13 to the Jersey side skipped by Jean Lowery. The home trio trailed 12-10 with just three ends to

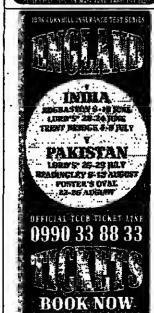
three gave them victory.
There was no such mistake by the men as England claimed wins in the opening singles and fours. The World indoor champion, Andy Thomson, set the ball rolling when he beat former United Kingdom champion, Stephen Rees, in four sets.

England moved in touch of Wales when David Holt, Greg Harlow, Gary Smith and Tony Allcock took the fours points. leading from the opening end to beat Robert Weale's Welsh rink 18-14.

Scotland stayed in third place when they picked up a maximum three points from Graham Robertson's 7-4 7-3 7-6 win over Guernsey's John Quirepel. Results, Sporting Digest, page 28



in-be ed Vir





Raymond Illingworth spent most of the day engaged in the not unfamiliar pursuit of having a grumble, largely about the use of a watering can

Martin Johnson, page 30

Battling display pleases Gould

Bohby Gould, the manager of Wales, praised his side for their passion and heart after they had ended their ill-starred European Championship campaign with a hard-earned draw in Tirana.

Wales recovered from conceding a fifth-minute penalty, converted by Sokol Kushta, to draw level hefore half-time through Mark Pembridge's second international goal. "They did get at us at the start of the second half but we've got to take a great deal of heart from the way we played," Gould said. Everybody gave their best. Although I wanted to win, because I'm a winner, it's a sound result."

Pemhridge, the 24-year-old Sheffield Wednesday midfielder, gave a non-stop display and was on hand to take advantage of a piece of brilliance by Ryan Giggs to head home just before the break. Southall saw both his post and har struck hut, as the game wore on, the Welsh looked the better-balanced team and could have claimed a win.

Gould must have been delighted at the final whistle as his patched-up side, with Gareth Taylor making his debut and Robbic Savage and John Robinsoo coming off the bench oear the end to earn their first caps, held on to earn a draw.

Inside the first minute Neville Southall was beaten by a freekick from Ledio Pano which crashed against his upright, and four minutes later the Welsh were behind. The Wolves defender Eric Young, back in the

The Israeli referee pointed straight to the penalty spot and Young must have been relieved not to receive a card of any colour for what appeared a professional foul. Kushta got up to take the kick himself and although his first successful conversion was ruled out for encroachment, he made no mistake second time around, sending Southall the wrong way.
Wales battled back well,

though, and equalised in the 41st minute. The goal owed much to the quick thinking of Dean Saunders, who took a throw down the left, but even more to the class of Giggs. The Manchester United man raced into space before picking out Pembridge's perfectly timed run and the midfielder headed home confidently.

Two minutes into the second

last September.

ALBANIA: Strakosha; Zmijam, Shulku, Dema (Mion, 84), Vata, Lusheso, Kushta (Busht, 55), Malko, Bogog (Zala, 79), Braidi, Pano.

WALES: Southell (Evenon); Jackins (Huddesfield), Jacoma (Norwich), Phillips (Nottingham Forest), Yacing (Wolved), Melville (Sunderland), Taylor (Crystal Paloce), Possbridge (Shoffield Wednesday), Saunders

absence, allowed the speedy Kushta to nip past him and race into the box, and his only response was a scything foul.

half Southall was just a spectator as an acrobatic volley from Altin Rraklli thumped against the bar, but after that Wales recovered their poise. They had two goals disallowed, while Giggs missed two good chances. The draw ensured Wales finished above the Albanians in fourth place in Group Seven, thanks to their win in Cardiff last September.



Dean Saunders, the Wales striker (right), takes on Albania's Sokol Kushta during yesterday's 1-1 draw in Tirana

Photograph: Armando Bahini/AP

Son takes:

father's

ashes to

matches

Few teams can claim fans as die

hard as those at the Spanish

club. Real Betis, who boast a

late club member whose son has

final wishes and takes his ash-

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 2833. Thursday 16 November

1 Instrument that's fashioned from half-cast steel (7) A load of redundancies? (7)

Rashly claim the Holy (7-8)
Grail? Not he according to 23 A small unleavened loaf? the Table! (15) 10 Band of the month, with a cult alien following (5)

11 Bird's choleric note (9) 12 Food served by motorway

junction? (9) 14 Not giving much away? Sounds like some of the KGB (5) 15 Shrink from a second-class

hospital taking on operaoons research (5) 16 Notes Roman made: all

Greek to me! (9) 18 Finest changes in Chairman's political programme

21 Angry and well-informed group (5)
22 To calm energetic rogue, charge may use such power

No, no little girl! (7)
24 Most of pudding repeats on
Duke, like some salads (7)

DOWN 1 Unfeeling opera singer's heard (7) Was Nightingale much alarmed by this portable weapon? (5,7-3)

3 I'll get rid of the devil, ma'am (9) Room, note, to swing cat

around (5) Assembly where no incom-plete music's played after half of *Unfinished*. sav (9)



Gets ready to shoot male hirds (5)

Arranging limbs across one's chest so old man's finger mends (7,4,4)

Allegiance of king, say, who changes sides at the start (7) 13 Monument to Dr Dia-

mond? (9) 14 Boil most of hot lunch in

diner, and live! (9) 15 Lammas pie (northern). There's one going begging here (4-3) 17 This should neutralise an

insect sting (7) 19 Fast ships (5) 20 Hit (oldie) that's perpetuated in Grease (5)

Tottenham and Brentford warned

have both been warned by the during the second half." Football Association after the game was abandoned following

a refereeing controversy. The Brentford manager, Dave Webb, had believed that the game - staged by Tottenham on 5 October - was to be an informal affair. Webb, therefore, was surprised when a recognised ref-erce and linesmen arrived to take charge - and he was even more unhappy when the Brentford defender, Brian Statham, was

shown a yellow card. There was quite a bit of discussion going on with the ref-Statham would be reported,"

eree during the game to determine whether or not

said an FA official.

"Webb just wanted to clarify the situation and Tottenham's lane, for heing sent off twice in the same match. McFarlane re-

charged by the FA. "Having giv-

en the correspondence due consideration and following a plea in mitigation made by the manager of Breotford, the members were satisfied that Tottenham and Brentford were zulky of misconduct under rule 26a. It was decided both clubs be warned as to their future conduct," the FA said.

Statham, an England Under-21 defender and former Tottenham player, has since been suspended for reaching 21 points, with the "friendly" cau-tion counting towards his tally. Also in trouble is the Dum-

barton goalkeeper, Ian McFar-

That led to both clubs being that he was red-carded twice for the same incident involving

Airdrie's Jim McIntyre. A Scottish Football Association official has confirmed that, according to the report from the referee, George Clyde, the play-er was sent off for head-butting and received an additional red card for a punch. That carries an automatic two-match ban and 24 penalty points which

brings a third game suspension. In addition, both McFarlane and his club are being asked to comment on the incident before Monday's meeting of the SFA's disciplinary committee.

In Italy, the Sampdoria captain, Roberto Mancini, was banned for five matches yes-

Chris Hughton also became in-volved. In the ead the referee ing Saturday's First Division, against Laurancionale on 5 No. Tottenham and Brentford, who decided to abandon the game match against Airdrie. The club vember. The stiff suspension has been shocked to discover was accompanied by a fine of 8m lire (£3,300) – 5m (£2,050) for dissent and 3m lire (£1,250) for faking a foul. Sampdoria were also fined 30m lire (£12,500) as a result of the in-

cident. Mancini's notoriously short fuse was in evidence against In-ternationale when the goal keeper, Gianluca Pagliuca, appeared to bring him down in the area. He exploded when the referee not only refused to award a penalty but booked him

for faking a foul. Mancini threw down his captain's armband and appealed to the Sampdoria coach, Sven Goran Eriksson, to substitute him but had his request turned down. He was then sent off for

terday for throwing a tantrum insulting the referec.

ings he made during Saturday's

game, but made no reference to

the other incidents. However, it

was on the strength of a super-visor's report in May 1994 that

the former Rangers striker Dun-

can Ferguson was handed a 12-

match suspension he will serve

once he completes a three-

ready been asked to supply their

comments to the meeting on in-

cidents not punished by referees.

Alan Lawrence, of Hearts, has

been asked to explain an alleged

elbowing offence on Rangers'

Craig Moore, and Sean Sweeney, of Airdric, for an alleged kick at Dundee's Morten Wieghorst.

Two other players had al-

month jail sentence.

bed of roses for the dead man whose identity, and that of his son, have not been divulged. According to the daily paper, El Mundo, although the son had

Flores.

no problem renewing the dead man's membership, he initially tried to take the ashes to the games in a glass container - a grave mistake. After several weeks he was stopped by security officials

However, oot all has been a

who claimed the container constituted a dangerous object and as such was prohibited. It was then, El Mundo said,

that the son got the idea of placing the ashes in a one-litre, used Tetra Brik milk carton, a decision which met with the approval of the chih's security officials.

Betis, one of Spain's oldest clubs, lie eighth in the 22-team First Division and are through to the last 16 of the Uefa Cup. The club have 31,500 club members, most of whom are believed to be alive.

Gascoigne faces further investigation "As a result of the contents of confirmation of the four book-

GUY HODGSON

Paul Gascoigne, who spoke de-spairingly of being in a perma-nent spotlight this week, had more attention of the unwanted kind yesterday when the Scottish Football Association innounced they are to interview him about Rangers' Scottish Premicr Division match against Aberdeen last Saturday. Strathclyde Police are inves-

tigating "incidents which al-legedly occurred" during a 1-1

draw at Ibrox, but the SFA are pursuing their disciplinary proedures after receiving the report from the referee supervisor, Don McVicar, who watched from the stand. The match official, John Rowbotham, took no action over a series of incidents concerning Gascoigne and a late fracas involving John Brown and Alan McLaren, of Rangers, and Ab-erdeen's Billy Dodds. Those four players have been asked for

their comments, which will be presented to the SFA's disciplinary committee next Monday.

that report, we are writing to Rangers and Aberdeen for the comments of those players referred to in a series of incidents," an SFA spokesman said. "It is in connection with the conduct of the players Gascoigne, Brown and McLaren of Rungers and Aberdeen's Dodds. "We have asked for those

comments to be returned in time for consideration at the next disciplinary committee meeting on Monday Rowbotham's report gave

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INSISTS UPON COSTLY GOLDEN PROMISE' BARLEY TO ENDOW IT

WITH THE SINGULARLY SMOOTH,

PRIZE - WINNING TASTE THAT

MAKES IT The MAIN

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Exclusive interview

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E 17 17 EST :: - 10 Contracting to the same 195 miles 124 125 25 31 30 4 T Han man 네 U. ...

remained faithful to the man's es to each game - in a used milk Although the man died last ear, the son has also renewed his father's membership of the Seville club for this season which entitles the milk carton con-taining the ashes to a seat in the Benito Villamarin stadium, according to one of the club's directors, Jose Antonio Gonzależ